

Inked

CULTURE. STYLE. ART.

THE AMERICA ISSUE

**BMX's Best
Go to Baghdad**

**REAL
AMERICAN
HEROES
OF 9/11**

**Wee-Man
Remembers
Ryan Dunn**

PLUS:

Kreayshawn

Porcelain Black

**American Tattoo
Idol Lyle Tuttle**

SEPTEMBER 2011 ISSUE
DISPLAY UNTIL SEPT 26

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**Inked Girl
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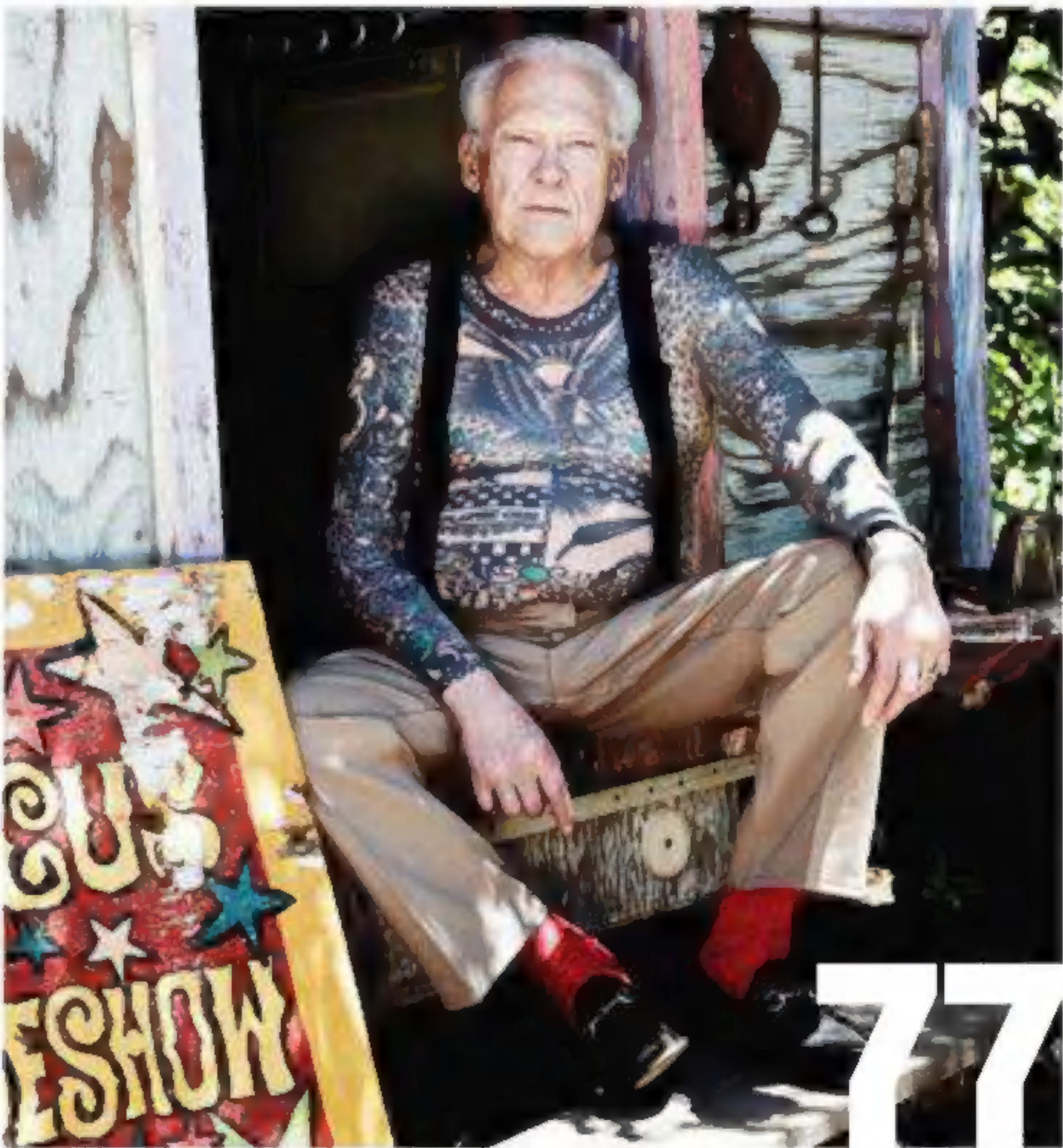
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WESC
We Are the Superlative Conspiracy

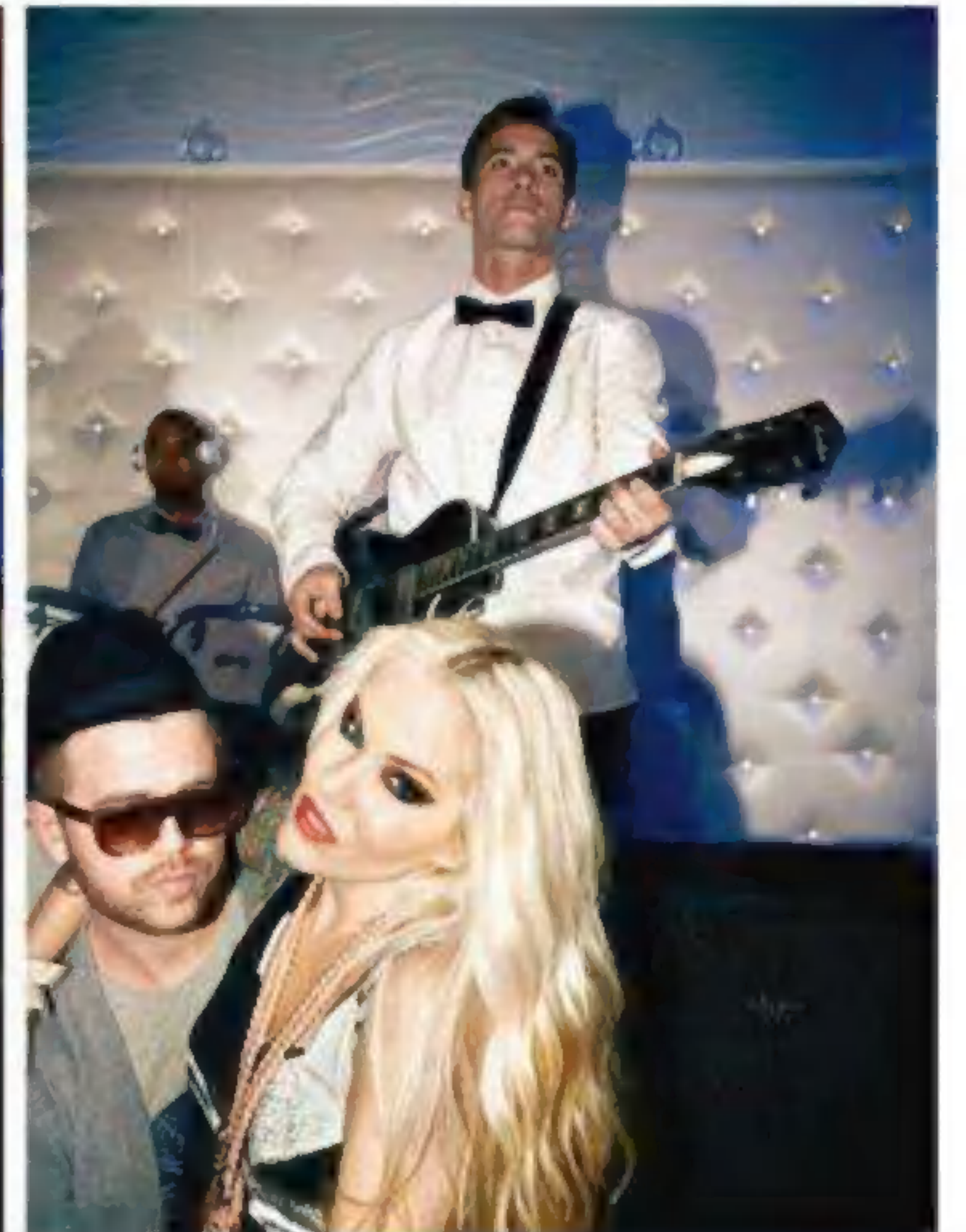
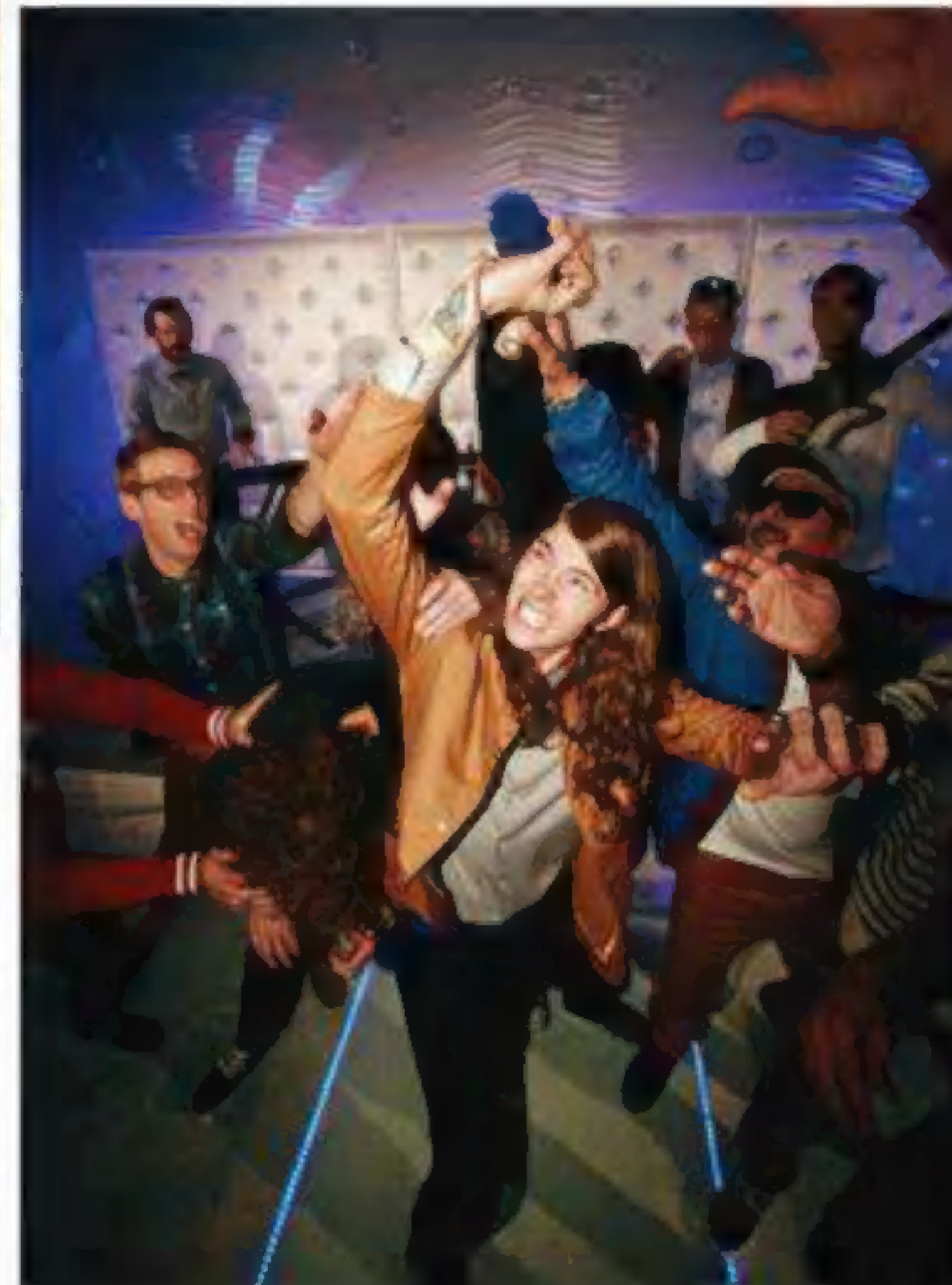
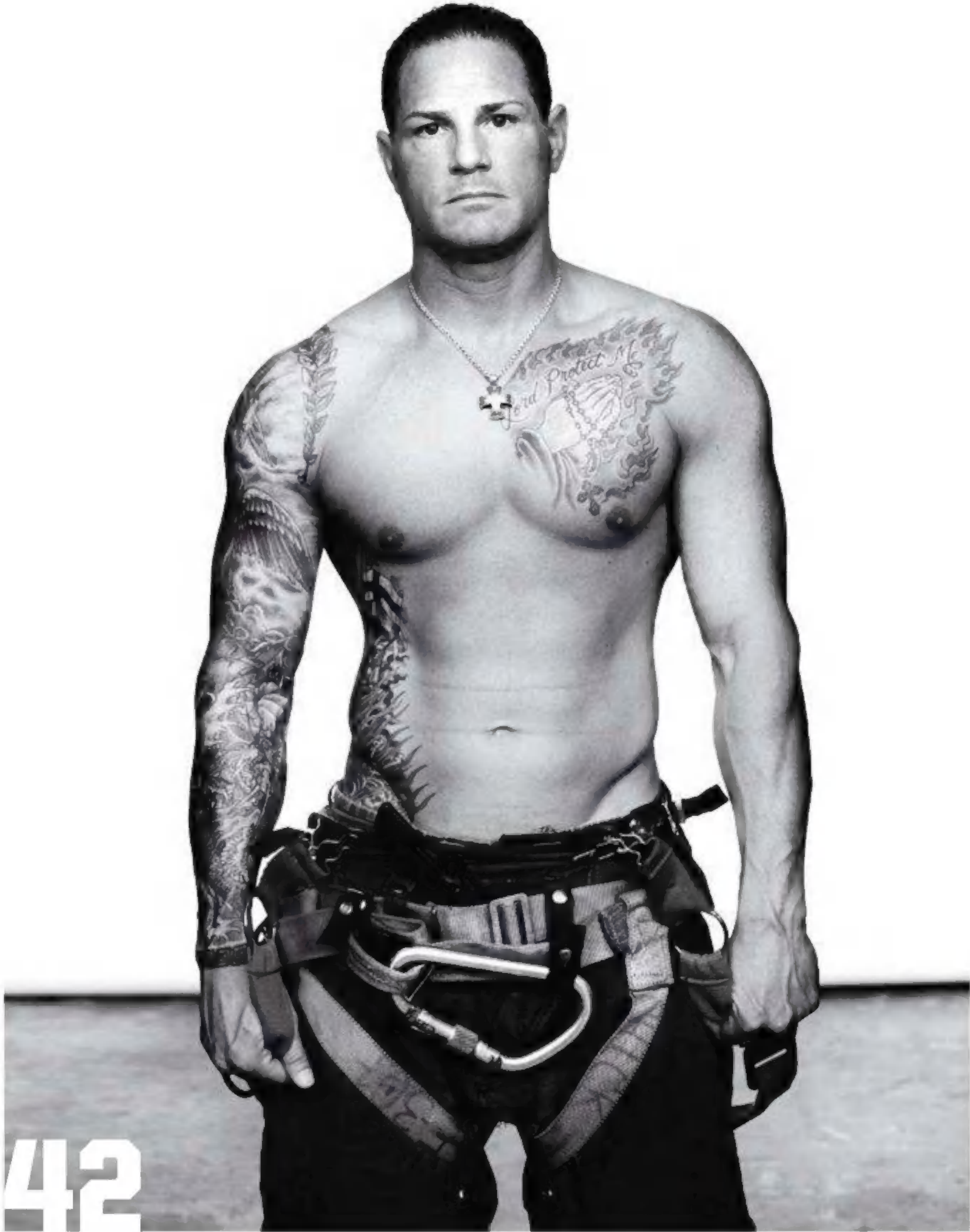


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MERMAIDS

This is a classic piece of Sailor Jerry flash, unmatched in its attention to detail. (Check all the rigging. They're correct down to the last sheet bend.) Consisting of a schooner ship—usually a memento of a successful trip around Cape Horn—surrounded by two sweetheart-style mermaids and balanced by two flags, this design harkens back to a time when “ships were made of wood and the men were made of iron!”

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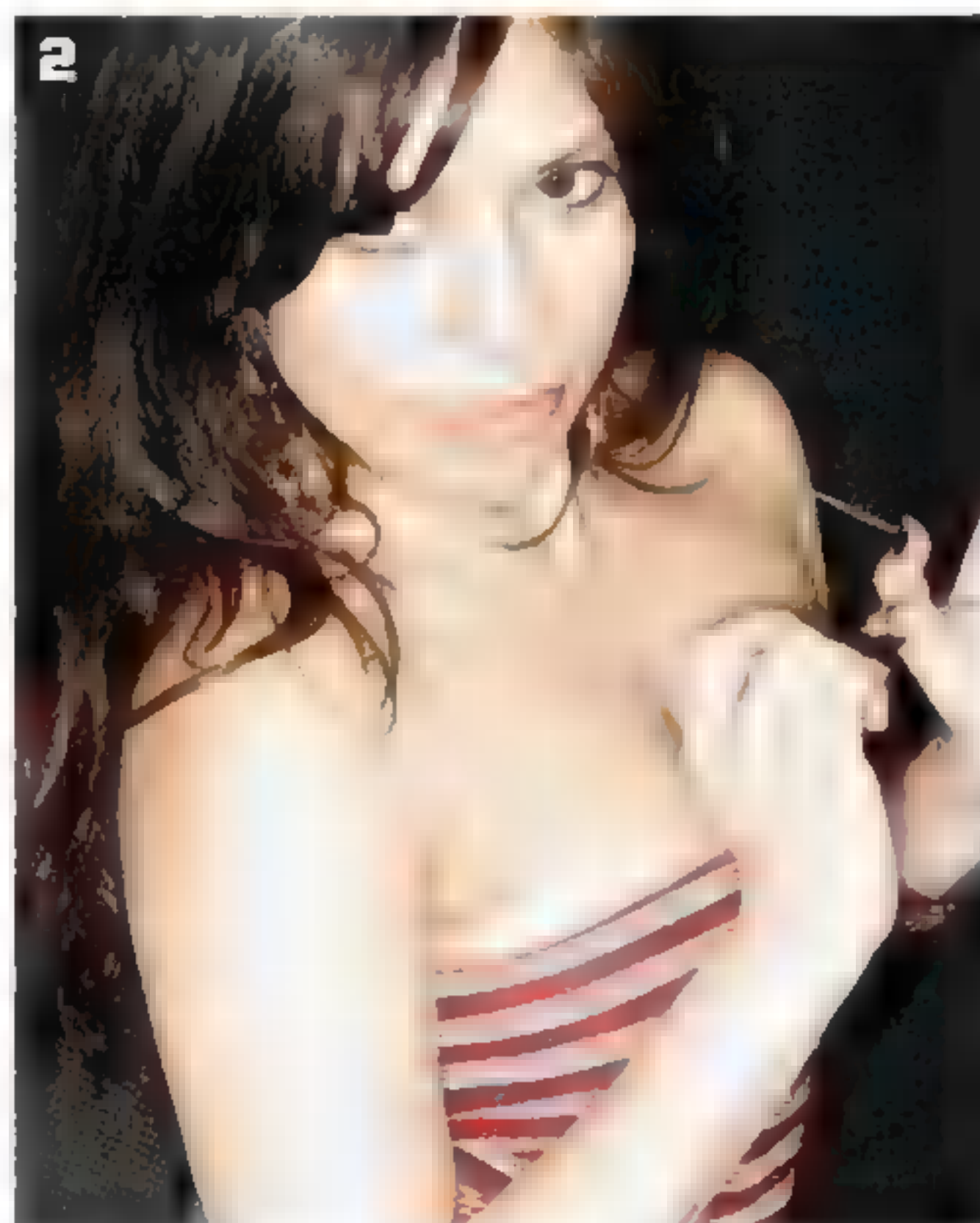
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ink well



If you are reading this magazine, you are most likely a nonconformist, like myself. But I bet you still wave the flag of the United States—or have it tattooed on your body. It's a symbol of a country in which we have the freedom to have our voices heard or rock our ink without being marginalized. Since the greatest gift Americans have is freedom of expression, we decided to use this issue to exercise that right and celebrate the country that has fostered this line of thinking.

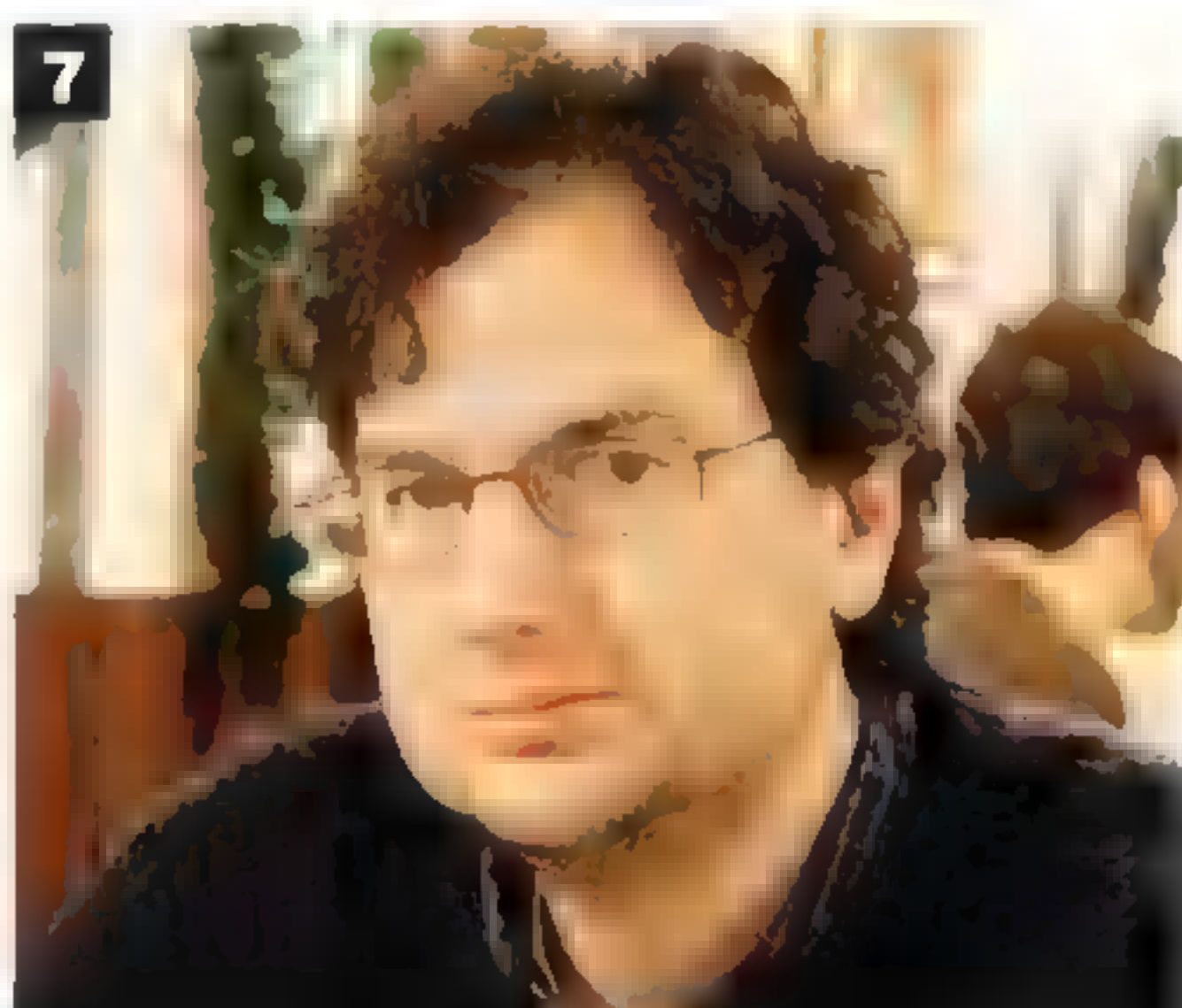
We kick things off with our cover, shot by Warwick Saint (1) and featuring Native American Alesandra Nicole, this issue's Inked Girl. For the 10th anniversary of 9/11, we're honoring a few firefighters who lifted up concrete and the country during one of our greatest tragedies, with a story by Rachel Khona (2) and strong, stoic photography by Mike McGregor (3). And for insight into another sad American story, Wee Man tells us about his tribute tattoo for Ryan Dunn in this issue's Q&A, photographed by Christopher Beyer (4).



On a happier note, Marisa Kakoulas (5) interviewed Americana tattoo icon Lyle Tuttle. And for a taste of how the American Dream feels, I (6) talked to the next big rapper, Kreayshawn, and Jon Wiederhorn (7) profiled Porcelain Black, who was shot by Juco (8).

We are often reminded how lucky we are to live in the land of the free and the home of brave, but let's not forget it's you, and the people in this issue, who make the country what it is. I truly feel lucky to live in such a melting pot, where my daily commute lets me rub against elbows tattooed with old-school Americana imagery, henna patterns, Japanese work, and everything in between. America, fuck yeah!


Rocky Rakovic
Editor
editor@inkedmag.com





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LETTERS OF THE DAMNED

Far be it from me to argue with the roots of Scott Ian and the boys—after all, The Damned Things definitely have some rock royalty roots. I do have to point out, however, that although Thin Lizzy were themselves original rock royalty, they never recorded “Black Betty.” That was Ram Jam. That being said, it’s far cooler to be influenced by Lizzy vs. Ram Jam, as long as you don’t head down Phil Lynott’s path. Keep up the good work, guys. Absolutely love INKED!

Al Lariviere

Grand Blanc, MI

Can’t wait to hear The Damned Things tear up the Inked Magazine Music

Tour. Scott Ian totally shreds (he once blew out my eardrums, but don’t worry, I won’t send you the medical bill!). Anyway, just wanted to say how much I’m looking forward to INKED bringing them to my hometown—it’s going to be like ■ tattoo convention at a rock concert.

Drew Gerry
Anaheim, CA

NEW YORK INK?

I admit I was pissed when I heard that Ami James (from Miami) was doing a show in New York City called *NY Ink* and he didn’t even hire any native New Yorkers! And nobody brought this up anywhere. Then I read your article and it makes sense to me

facebook

OTEP SHAMAYA

Skye Sabrina Otep, how you have stolen this straight girl’s heart. Can I make love to your voice (and tattoos)?

MARIA BRINK

Danny Hawkins She is by far the sexiest woman rock has ever seen.

CARAH FAYE

Salena Partida OK now that’s journalism at its best! Love to see stuff like that! Women can be more than just an object of desire.

ANA MATRONIC

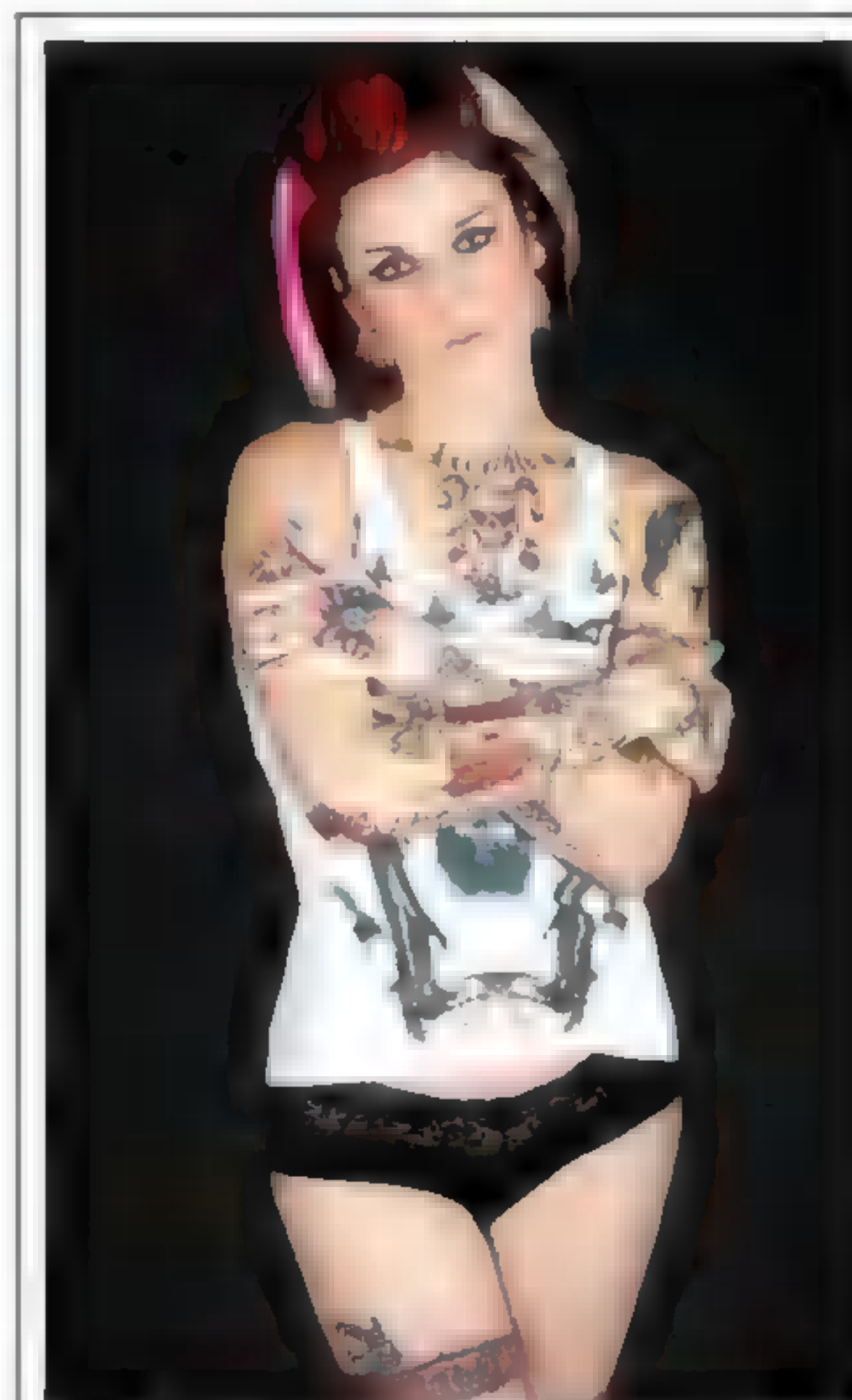
Jean-Pierre Vidrine Best stage name ever.

NATASHA KAI

Ed Comppen An amazing player and love the tattoos.

INKED GIRL LEAH JUNG

Anthony Duffy Moynahan picture perfect.



READER OF THE MONTH

ANDREA SKOWRONSKI MCCANN
BUFFALO, NEW YORK

Want to be a Reader of the Month?
E-mail photos to inkedgirl@inkedmag.com

after he explained that New York is a melting pot of people from other cities. I’ll take down the rant I did on Facebook now.

Tyler Zerrener

The Bronx, NEW YORK

THE HOTTEST OF THE HOT?

Just seeing Maria Brink again in the “Hottest Tattooed Women of Rock” made me want more Maria. One picture was not enough, INKED. Give

the hardcore fans what we want.

Treavor Vuolo

Tallahassee, FL

Wow, good call on Maja Ivarsson! While some mags only talk about Ke\$ha and those other snotty chicks you guys have sick taste in both music and in women. Oh yeah, and of course in tattoos, duh.

Susan Waterson

Albany, NY



WRITE US. Got something to say? Send all praise, notes of complaint, story suggestions, and other comments to letters@inkedmag.com. All submissions should include the writer’s name and address. Letters may be edited for clarity, length, and content. **Also join the party at [facebook.com/inkedmag](https://www.facebook.com/inkedmag).**

INKED LIFE

NEWS. PLAY. GROOM.



MY FIRST INK

Name: Jessica Chang

Occupation: owner of Demons NYC, a Brooklyn-based clothing company

Hometown: Oskaloosa, IA

My first tattoo was of a nautical star. I was 17 and I was tired of waiting to be legally allowed to get a tattoo, so my friend did it in her kitchen. I got it because I was obsessed with stars and old-school tattoos—and I still am. Also, the nautical star was used by sailors to find their way home, and at the time I didn't really feel like I had a home. I've since covered it up with huge lotus flowers. But even though it's covered, I can still see it. I like that I'm the only one who notices it's there. It's like a permanent little secret.

PHOTO BY DUSTIN COHEN

STYLIST, TERRI ROSE; HAIR AND MAKEUP, MICHELLE PAYNE; AMERICAN APPAREL TANK TOP; MOTO FLAG SHORTS; METROPARK NECKLACE



JWOWSER

Those crazy kids on *Jersey Shore* love them some tanning beds, alcoholic drinks, and ink. During their excursion to Italy, Jennifer "JWoww" Farley picked up this black-and-gray shoulder piece of a cross, praying hands, and the letters "RIP OMA" in Florence. Sources say the tattoo is homage to her grandmother who died in February, as *Oma* means *grandmother* in German. Farley also has a tribute piece for her Opa, or grandfather, on her ankle.



MEDICAL RECORD

By offering discounted medical tattoos (\$10–\$50), Hooligans Apparel & Tattoos in Odessa, TX, might just be a lifesaver. Although many people wear medical ID jewelry to indicate conditions such as diabetes or epilepsy, the bracelets and necklaces can fall off, especially during an emergency situation. Tattoos "are easier to wear," according to Hooligans tattoo artist Bounty. If you can't make it to his shop for the discount, it's still worth paying full price at your own shop for a permanent medical-alert piece. And if you can make it to Hooligans, Bounty assures "every surface is hospital-grade clean."



CAPITAL IDEA

Washington D.C. residents who feel like a constituency without a country showed their fervor by displaying their ink of the District's flag at Dupont Circle on Flag Day. DCvote.org called it "the largest gathering of people with D.C. tattoos ever." While it's true that politics are made in their backyard, the district is without voting representation in the House and Senate and lacks a star on the American flag.

25%
OF AMERICANS AGES 18-50
HAVE AT LEAST
ONE TATTOO

According to the new book *The Unofficial U.S. Census: Things the Official U.S. Census Doesn't Tell You About America*

THANK GOD THEY DON'T ALL

Grown Up

TO BE

SOCCKER MOMS



Daisy Dukes, stars and stripes, and bourbon: Jamie Lynn is an all-American girl.

BOURBON DYNASTY

USA's gift to the world is going through a resurgence.

Bourbon is American as apple pie, baseball, and democracy. It is our slightly sweeter, smoother, and richer spin on the hooch from the British Isles. But bourbon drinkers don't stick to one label like scotch drinkers do; they enjoy the freedom of sampling the varieties on the market—and that includes a wonderful influx of small batch distillers as of late. Not only has bourbon country (Kentucky) given birth to more liquid gold, but now you can find quality bourbons from all around the country, even New York.

Many think that a whiskey must be made in Bourbon County, KY, to be considered bourbon, but that

is not the case. To be called bourbon, the spirit must be: made in the United States using a grain mixture that is at least 51 percent corn; distilled at a proof lower than 160 but bottled with a proof higher than 80; and aged in new charred oak barrels.

While we love drinking our way through the Bourbon Trail in Kentucky—Versailles (Woodford Reserve), Lawrenceburg (Wild Turkey and Four Roses), Clermont (Jim Beam), Bardstown (Heaven Hill), and Loretto (Maker's Mark)—we can't wait to see how corn from other regions of the lower 48 affects the recipe. —Robert McCormick

COCKTAIL CONVERSATION

Jamie Lynn of Lady Jay's offers a taste of Dixie in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

INKED: HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE LADY JAY'S?

JAMIE LYNN: It's a local Brooklyn watering hole with a southern theme, a whiskey bar, friends, and family style—but we're always making new friends.

IS THERE A "LADY JAY"? Yes. Lady Jay was the great-grandmother of Sam Mason, one of the owners. She owned a brothel in Reno a long time ago.

WHAT'S ON THE JUKEBOX? Everything from Waylon Jennings to the Ramones—mostly country and rock 'n' roll, with some blues for good measure.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF BOURBON? Wild Turkey is a staple liquor for any decent southern-style bar like Lady Jay's.

WHEN'S THE BEST TIME TO DRINK BOURBON? Anytime.

WHEN'S THE BEST TIME TO GET A TATTOO? I've always just gotten an idea in my head and gotten it done, which, having worked in tattoo shops for 12 years, is a bit dangerous. I wouldn't suggest getting one after a shot, as it thins your blood and makes it hard to tattoo.



ALL AMERICAN

1 oz Jim Beam Devil's Cut Bourbon

1 oz peach schnapps

2 oz Coca-Cola

Pour the alcohol over ice in an old-fashioned glass; top with cola.



JAMIE LYNN'S

WILD TURKEY JOHN COLLINS

1 ½ oz Wild Turkey Bourbon

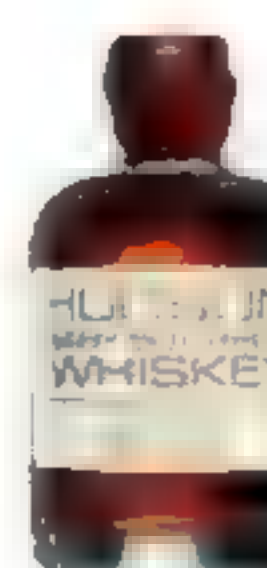
1 oz lemon juice

½ oz simple syrup

Dash of cayenne pepper

Club soda

Pour the first four ingredients into a collins glass filled with ice cubes; top off with club soda.



PERFECT HUDSON MANHATTAN

2 oz Hudson Baby Bourbon

½ oz sweet vermouth

½ oz dry vermouth

Dash of bitters

Maraschino cherry

Swizzle the first four ingredients in ice, strain into a martini glass, and drop in the cherry.

photo by LEXI LAMBROS

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Clockwise from top left:
*Ravens Nesting; Crave;
Tempted; Framed.*

NOUVEAU NATURALISM

Eric Bailey entices your animalistic urges.

Pastel-colored cupcakes, hot pink cotton candy, rainbow-swirl lollipops, red roses, fuzzy forest creatures: Eric Bailey's world is a bit like Dr. Seuss's, except the girls are much hotter. Born and raised in northern California, Bailey attended the Academy of Art College in San Francisco. Now 31, he's a full-time artist working in both commercial art (Growing Pains Studios) and fine art (Birds and Bullets). Bailey's client work includes sneakers and T-shirt designs for Adidas, custom Chuck Taylors for Converse, original artwork for Nike's Jordan All American Classic, board design for Burton, and an album cover for up-and-coming rapper Big K.R.I.T.—just to name-drop a few.

He's currently relishing in the fact that his art and design is featured in two recently released books: *Juxtapoz Erotica* by Gingko Press and *Torso, T-Shirt Graphics Exposed* by Gestalten.

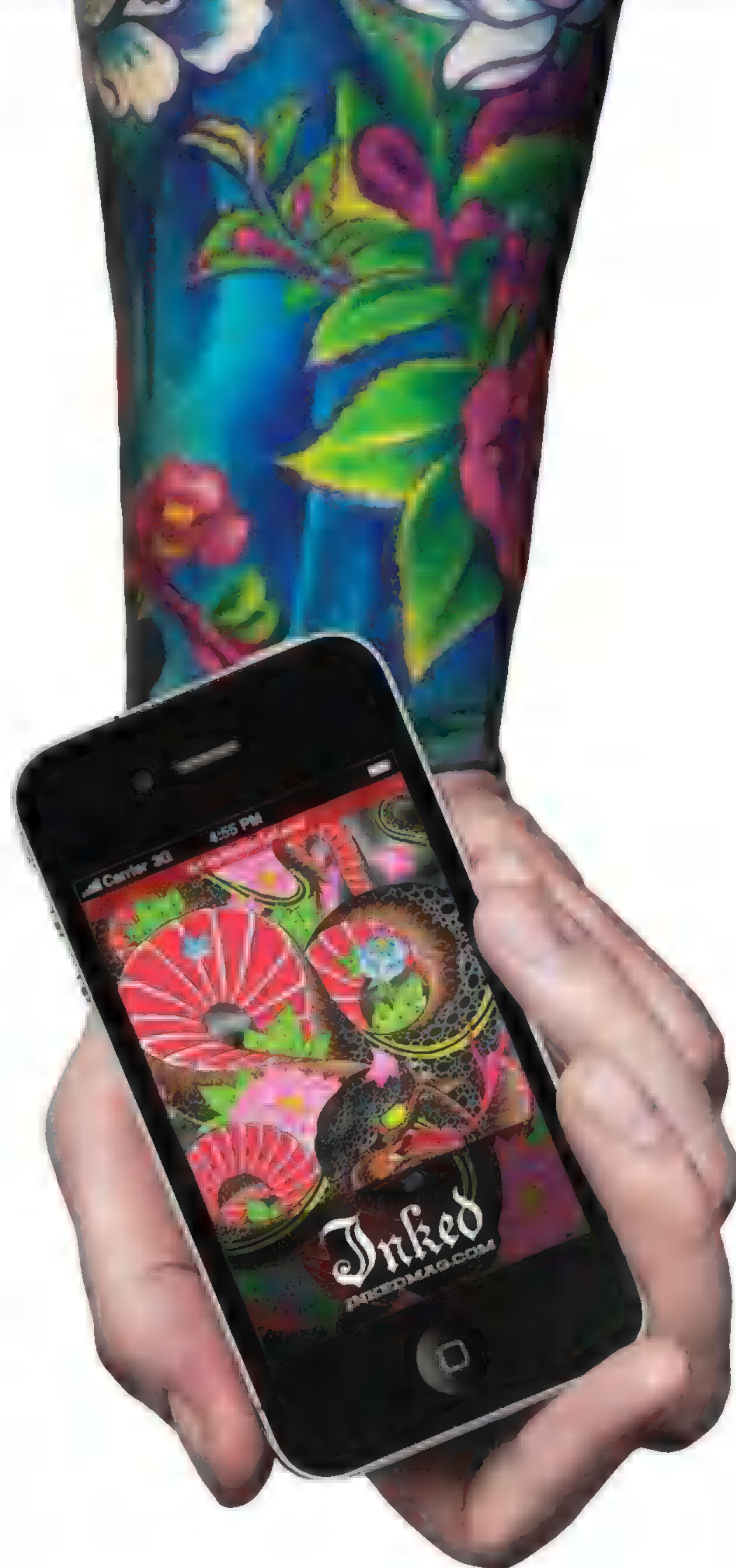
Bailey's paintings—scantly clad women posing with deer, foxes, and sheep while delighting in or tempting their woodland counterparts with a range of sweet treats—are based on the concept of naturalism versus

materialism. "It evolved organically from life experiences and places I've lived," he explains; he's resided both in the mountains of northern California (animals) and in the rat race of Los Angeles (stilettos, pretty girls, and artificial, saccharine delights). "I kind of meshed those two things together."

The process goes like this: Set up photo shoot with props and one of Bailey's good-looking lady friends, take photos, use Photoshop to "get the reference right," paint a classical-style oil painting using said photo and a stuffed and mounted animal he rents from a local taxidermist ("I would love to purchase them, but they're kind of pricey"). In Bailey's world, glamour and excess meet innocent, organic nature.

Even Bailey's ink keeps with the theme of naturalism versus materialism. Friend, tattooist, and fellow painter Henry Lewis has done about 95 percent of Bailey's work, which consists of sparrows and swallows, filigree, a female painter he calls "Lady Inspiration," and a nearly complete sleeve on his right arm featuring a skull with a rose in its mouth. —Kara Pound





Inked

CITY GUIDE APP

FIND WHAT'S HOT IN YOUR CITY
NOW AVAILABLE FOR FREE IN THE APP STORE



MONEY RING

Custom Coin Rings takes quarters and silver dollars and forges them into man jewelry. If you peruse their Etsy shop (etsy.com/shop/customcoinrings), you'll be able to pick up something that honors your home state—or at least Susan B. Anthony.



REALER AMERICAN HEROES

To praise the backbone of the USA, G.I. Joe crafted 12-inch figures of modern members of the public service (\$20, hasbro.com). While the figures give kids real American heroes to look up to, they also make a cool gift for firefighters, police officers, and soldiers.



RAIDER OF THE LOST ART

Before Ice Cube was in Disney movies, he spit gangster rap and represented with Raiders gear. The guys at Teruo Artistry created this Raiders shirt (\$29, shopteruo.com) that combines two strong California symbols.



FLY YOUR FLAG

Saber gave Betsy Ross's Old Glory an updated look through his painting *Tarnish*. For \$20 you can get an 18" x 24" poster of the piece (saberone.com).



GARDEN PARTY

Those smug-looking garden gnomes have finally met their enemy! These Mini Gnome Be Gone Garden Monsters (\$50, cleanairgardening.com) will eradicate any cuteness infestation.



SHAKE IT UP

We get the same satisfaction out of hearing ice cubes clink when we make drinks as we do when hearing the ball inside a spray-paint can rattle. Now the two experiences are combined in the Kikkerland Graffiti Cocktail Shaker (\$20, unicahome.com).



BREAD WINNER

Sick of coworkers stealing your lunch? Pack your sandwich into an Anti-Theft Lunch Bag (\$8 for 25, thinkofthe.com); they fake the appearance of mold on your PB&J. The downside: No one will want to eat with you.

TOUGH LINKS

If you bleed your school colors, wear your heart on your sleeve with Game-Used College Football Helmet Cufflinks (\$180, uncommongoods.com). The battle-forged accessories come from the gridirons of Alabama, Ohio State, Notre Dame, LSU, UC Berkeley, and USC.



TEE PARTY

Affliction's Americana collection celebrates our country's craftsmanship. Check out the Heavy Metal SS Tee (\$54, afflictionclothingstore.com) for a sampling of the line's taste.

LEADING LIGHT



Every man should have a Zippo. And if you are the type that hangs at an Army Navy store, you should have the America Military Montage Zippo (\$29, zippo.com).





INK ON THE STREET

WHO: Thomas Gastelum

SPOTTED AT: Midtown, New York City

WHERE HE GETS TATTOOED: Kat Von D was my go-to artist for years, and the last tattoo she did on me is Leonardo Da Vinci's *Fetus in the Womb* on my left wrist. Being an artist myself I appreciate the masters that played an important role in history and respect Leonardo Da Vinci's artistic and scientific contributions to understanding the miraculous phenomena that govern the growth and development of the fetus in the womb. When I got to New York, I came across Ashley Love, an amazing artist at Brooklyn's Twelve28 Tattoo. She's my new love.

WHAT HE'S WEARING: Feltraiger Support American shirt (\$38) and Ivan jacket (\$224, feltraiger.com).

BRAND BACKSTORY: Feltraiger was founded by Daniel Feldman, who named the company after his family's surname from the old country (Russia) before Ellis Island mucked it up. The menswear brand celebrates the individuality of American men with limited-edition pieces, many of which are hand-numbered. Best of all, everything they do is designed and produced in the good ol' U-S-of-A.

WHAT ELSE HE'S WEARING: Fremont Apparel Co. pants; Converse sneakers; Brixton hat; vintage Army surplus bag.



MOVIES

WHY BOXING MOVIES ALWAYS WIN IN THE END

A wise man once said that life is short and hard, like a body-building elf (actually, it was Jimmy Pop of the Bloodhound Gang). So escapism has become a major part of our economy, as Americans spend billions of dollars on movies and sports. But even though Major League Baseball and the NFL bring in more than \$13 billion of combined yearly revenue, those sports are rarely the subject of box office blockbusters. Most of the critically acclaimed films about sports tend to be about boxing (*Rocky*, *The Fighter*, *Raging Bull*), despite the fact that boxing is pretty much dead as a spectator sport. One possible reason for this is that you don't need to have any background knowledge of the sport to understand boxing.

This month, *Warrior*, a story of a returning soldier (Tom Hardy) training with his father (Nick Nolte) for an MMA fight against his older brother (Joel Edgerton), will test whether the movie formula that's worked for boxing can be adapted for mixed martial



arts. Also hitting screens is *Moneyball*, which is about how general manager Billy Beane (played by Brad Pitt) tried to build a winning baseball team with a minuscule payroll by rethinking the way players are evaluated. It's based on the wildly successful book by Michael Lewis, who also wrote *The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game*. Unfortunately, the book seems pretty inadaptably as a film;

what little narrative it has is buried by pages of statistical analysis and insider information.

And as the world doesn't know the infield fly rule, Hollywood is probably better off sinking more into movies based around blood sports, because they can recoup the dollars in foreign markets where moviegoers look at baseball the same way Americans look at curling. —Charlie Connell

MOVIES



STRAW DOGS

James Madsen (*X-Men*) and Kate Bosworth (*Superman Returns*) star in this thriller about a couple who return to the South after the wife's father dies. The looks of the quaint town prove to be deceiving when tension mounts between the husband and the wife's ex-boyfriend (Alexander Skarsgård). They find themselves trapped—and then things escalate to a life-and-death confrontation. This is a remake of the controversial 1971 flick of the same name starring Dustin Hoffman, and word is that the film may have a chance at an Oscar. —Gilbert Macias



SHARK NIGHT 3D

A group of teens spending the summer at a lake house are in for a surprise when they discover the infestation of freshwater sharks. Last summer, we got the cleavage and carnage underwater horror romp that was *Piranha 3D*; this year it looks like *Shark Night 3D* will fill those flippers. But tit-shot enthusiasts, simmer down: The film has a PG-13 rating, so it looks like we're in for more thrills and chills than nudity and buckets of blood. Still, who doesn't want a popcorn horror flick from the guy who directed *Snakes on a Plane*? —G.M.

DVDs



STAR WARS: THE COMPLETE SAGA

May the force be with Blu! For the first time ever, the complete *Star Wars* saga is available in glorious high-definition. *Star Wars* geeks will freak over this whopping nine-disc set that contains all six films and special features loaded with deleted, extended, and alternate scenes, numerous documentaries, commentaries, and behind-the-scenes featurettes. For those who loathe the prequel trilogy often bashed by hard-core *Star Wars* fans, there's also the opportunity to buy the original trilogy and the prequel trilogy as separate sets. —G.M.

BOOK



SATISFACTION OBTAINED

Marc Spitz's *Jagger: Rebel, Rock Star, Rambler, Rogue* is a fantastic look at Mick Jagger and the legendary Rolling Stones. Spitz offers up a definitive look at Mick and the Stones' formation, evolution, and ascension to rock royalty and pop culture ubiquity while revisiting their highest highs and lowest lows, from "Satisfaction" and *Sticky Fingers* to the Redlands drug bust and the tragedy at the Altamont Free Concert. —Anthony Vargas



SCARFACE: LIMITED EDITION

The pairing of director Brian de Palma (*The Untouchables*) and writer Oliver Stone (*Wall Street*, *Platoon*) brought us one of the most memorable and iconic performances of Al Pacino's career: the ruthless Tony Montana. Now you can experience one of the grittiest gangster masterpieces of all time in a newly restored, high-res, high-def picture with a 7.1 DTS master audio track. The set comes with collectible Steel-Book packaging, 10 exclusive art cards, a digital copy of the film, and a DVD of the original 1932 *Scarface*. Cocaine not included. —G.M.

WITNESS THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH! MADNESS & MAYHEM!

BRING ME THE HORIZON

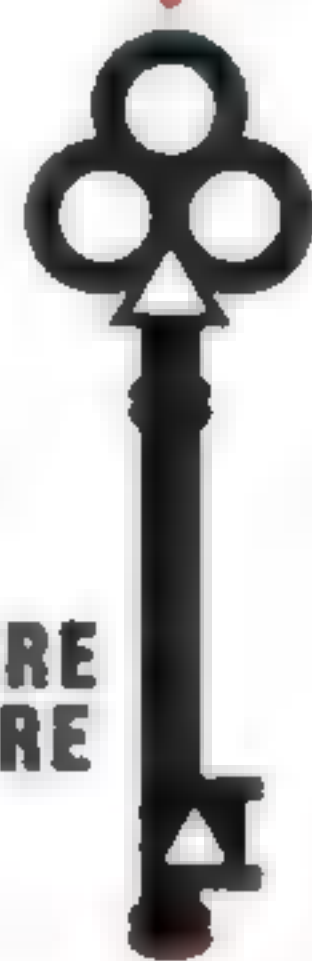
PARKWAY DRIVE

ARCHITECTS (UK)

DEEZ NUTS WHILE SHE SLEEPS



WED/AUG-31 - SAN DIEGO, CA HOUSE OF BLUES
THU/SEP-1 - SAN DIEGO, CA HOUSE OF BLUES
FRI/SEP-2 - LOS ANGELES, CA HOLLYWOOD PALLADIUM
SAT/SEP-3 - SAN FRANCISCO THE FILLMORE
MON/SEP-5 - PORTLAND, OR ROSELAND THEATER
TUE/SEP-6 - SEATTLE, WA SHOWBOX SODO
WED/SEP-7 - VANCOUVER, BC COMMODORE BALLROOM
FRI/SEP-9 - EDMONTON, AB EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE
SAT/SEP-10 - CALGARY, AB MACEWAN HALL
SUN/SEP-11 - SASKATOON, SK THE ODEON EVENTS CENTRE
MON/SEP-12 - WINNIPEG, MB BURTON CUMMINGS THEATRE
TUE/SEP-13 - MINNEAPOLIS, MN FIRST AVENUE
WED/SEP-14 - CHICAGO, IL HOUSE OF BLUES
THU/SEP-15 - DETROIT, MI THE FILLMORE DETROIT
FRI/SEP-16 - TORONTO, ON ECHO BEACH MOLSON AMP



SAT/SEP-17 - MONTREAL, QC METROPOLIS
MON/SEP-19 - BOSTON, MA HOUSE OF BLUES
TUE/SEP-20 - CLIFTON PARK, NY NORTHERN LIGHTS
WED/SEP-21 - NEW YORK, NY ROSELAND BALLROOM
FRI/SEP-23 - SILVER SPRINGS, MD THE FILLMORE
SAT/SEP-24 - CHARLOTTE, NC THE FILLMORE CHARLOTTE
SUN/SEP-25 - ATLANTA, GA THE TABERNACLE
MON/SEP-26 - MEMPHIS, TN NEW DAISY THEATRE
TUE/SEP-27 - DALLAS, TX HOUSE OF BLUES
WED/SEP-28 - HOUSTON, TX HOUSE OF BLUES
THU/SEP-29 - SAN ANTONIO, TX BACKSTAGE LIVE
FRI/SEP-30 - LUBBOCK, TX THE PAVILION
SAT/OCT-1 - ALBUQUERQUE, NM SUNSHINE THEATRE
SUN/OCT-2 - DENVER, CO FILLMORE AUDITORIUM
MON/OCT-3 - SALT LAKE CITY, UT IN THE VENUE
TUE/OCT-4 - LAS VEGAS, NV HOUSE OF BLUES

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HOUSE OF BLUES
ENTERTAINMENT

VIDEO GAMES

**MADDEN NFL 12**

PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, PLAYSTATION 2, PSP, XBOX 360, WII

EA Sports is finally doing its hard-core fan base a solid with *Madden 12*. Legacy issues like suction blocking, broken tackling, and poor zone coverage? Fixed. The neglected franchise mode? Completely revamped with oft-requested features like custom playbooks, preseason roster cuts, and a new scouting system. The best new feature is dynamic player performance. Previously, two players with similar ratings would hardly operate differently on the field; now, the game takes into account individual play styles more faithful to the athletes. When Michael Vick sees a gap in the defense, he'll tuck the ball and burst into the open field for a large gain. If Vikings fans get their way, maybe next year they'll add Cutler's pouty facial animation too. **Play If You Like:** Ending the Lockout, Fantasy Football, America! —Matt Bertz

**DEUS EX: HUMAN REVOLUTION**

PLATFORMS: PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360, PC

Cyberpunk sensibilities collide with conspiracy theory in this prequel to the PC classic *Deus Ex*. Like its predecessor, *Human Revolution* seamlessly combines elements of first-person shooters, role-playing, and stealth games. In this world, set 25 years before the events of *Deus Ex*, nanotechnology is still in its infancy and the biggest players in the military industrial complex are companies sling-ing mechanical augmentations. Players assume the role of Adam Jensen, a security expert who goes under the knife and receives a full bionic makeover after being injured in an attack. Armed with badass abilities that you can upgrade and customize to your own play style, you must unravel the mystery surrounding the attack while competing corporations obfuscate the truth. **Play If You Like:** Metal Gear Solid, Thief, *Blade Runner* —M.B.

**GEARS OF WAR 3**

PLATFORM: XBOX 360

The 10-ton Xbox 360 juggernaut is back, and it's packing more retina-searing action than an Arnold Schwarzenegger cable TV marathon. The third entry in the series picks up 18 months after the last left off. The alien uprising is reaching critical mass, and only a few 'roid-raging soldiers are left to prevent the extinction of the human race. Hop online with three other friends to wrap up the trilogy in the co-op campaign, and when you're done wiping the floor with Locust carcasses, stay for the impressive array of multiplayer modes. With a new matchmaking system, revamped Horde mode that integrates tower defense mechanics, and a new Beast mode that lets you play as Locust aggressors, *Gears 3* is the definition of destination multiplayer. **Play If You Like:** Bulletstorm, *Gears of War 2*, *Battle: Los Angeles* —M.B.

**THE Inked PLAYLIST**

BY JONAH BAYER

BLACK LIPS

"Family Tree"

Stumbling across this band's music is like rediscovering the best '70s garage band.

BON IVER

"Calgary"

Frontman Justin Vernon steps outside of his musical comfort zone without losing an ounce of character.

ICEAGE

"Broken Bone"

I think this Danish band is our generation's answer to Gang of Four.

JUNIOR BATTLES

"Seventeen"

The monster choruses, double-timed drums, and palm-muted guitars hearken back to a simpler time.

NIKKI LANE

"Gone, Gone, Gone"

You probably haven't heard of Nikki Lane, but once you do you'll be obsessed too.

MODEST MOUSE

"That'll Be the Day"

They make Buddy Holly's song their own, giving the lyrics a fresh new context.

PSYCHIC BUBBLES

"Five Fold Kiss (Don't Sleep)"

A side project of Circa Survive's Colin Frangicetto.

SUBLIME WITH ROME

"Lovers Rock"

This SoCal anthem also celebrates the next stage of the band's ska legacy.

THE WONDER YEARS

"Came Out Swinging"

If you think you've outgrown pop-punk, this song will change your mind.



CLASS IT UP

If you're off to school this fall (or just wish you were), the good ol' college try isn't going to hack it in the grooming department.

The start of a collegiate career is considered an official induction into adulthood, but whether or not you're going to spend the next nine months with a plethora of free-flowing kegs and Frisbee games on the quad, there are responsibilities that come with the freedom of being on your own. Yes, there's the DIY laundry situation (remember, separate whites and colors), but upgrading how you clean yourself is just as imperative as learning to launder your duds properly.

Now that you're all grown up, it's time to retire certain habits of your youth. No more stealing your old man's aftershave or swiping his razor; you have to suck it up and buy your own supplies. Hair should be washed more often than monthly, and when you get in the shower, letting the water "do the work" isn't going to be enough—you're actually going to have to scrub.

Look at it this way: The formative period of new adulthood is an opportune time to develop a more evolved grooming routine. So carpe diem and learn, once and for all, that good hygiene will up your odds of hooking up and keep relationships with your roommates copacetic. Next time you hit the store for a 78-pack box of ramen, stock up on the necessities below. Even if your life is the 2011 version of *Animal House*, you won't look—or smell—like John Belushi. —Melanie Rud



ECO TOOLS ECO POUF

This thing (\$4, drugstores) is called a loofah—learn it, love it, and use it to scrub your back and other hard-to-reach places.



AXE COOL METAL DEODORANT BODYSPRAY

Dousing yourself in cologne is by no means the same as a shower, but a quick spray of this deodorant spray (\$5, drugstores) does wonders for post-party stank.



NIVEA ACTIVE 3 BODY WASH

No need to tote a pansy-ass shower caddy to the communal bathroom—this triple-duty cleanser (\$4, drugstores) also works as shampoo and shaving cream.



DICKINSON'S WITCH HAZEL TONER

Avoid mountain ranges on your face by swiping on this astringent (\$5, drugstores) that removes pimple-producing oil and banishes remnants of your pizza-face days.



We're really enjoying
the new school
uniform initiative.

STYLIST: TERRI ROSE; HAIR AND MAKEUP: ASIA GEIGER FOR CELESTINEAGENCY.COM; MODEL: HATTIE WATSON; IRON FIST T-SHIRT; AMERICAN APPAREL SHORTS; VINTAGE GLASSES

SAINTS & SINNERS TOUR

BETWEEN THE BURIED AND ME

animal skulls leaders

LESSERACT

10/27 CHARLOTTE THE FILLMORE	11/11 CHICAGO HOUSE OF BLUES	11/26 LOS ANGELES HOUSE OF BLUES *
10/28 SILVER SPRING THE FILLMORE	11/12 CINCINNATI BOGART'S	11/27 SAN FRANCISCO THE FILLMORE
10/29 ASBURY PARK THE STONE PONY*	11/13 ST. LOUIS THE PAGEANT	11/29 BOISE KNITTING FACTORY
10/30 BOSTON HOUSE OF BLUES	11/15 LITTLE ROCK JUANITA'S	11/30 SPOKANE KNITTING FACTORY
11/1 RICHMOND HAT FACTORY	11/16 NEW ORLEANS HOUSE OF BLUES	12/1 CALGARY
11/2 MYRTLE BEACH HOUSE OF BLUES	11/17 HOUSTON HOUSE OF BLUES	12/2 EDMONTON
11/3 TAMPA THE RITZY BOR	11/18 DALLAS HOUSE OF BLUES	12/3 SASKATOON
11/4 FT. LAUDERDALE REVOLUTION	11/19 AUSTIN EMO'S	12/4 WINNIPEG
11/5 ORLANDO THE BEACHAM	11/20 SAN ANTONIO BACKSTAGE LIVE	12/7 TORONTO PHOENIX THEATRE
11/8 INDIANAPOLIS EGYPTIAN ROOM	11/22 TUCSON RIALTO THEATRE	12/8 MONTREAL CLUB SODA
11/9 CLEVELAND HOUSE OF BLUES	11/23 LAS VEGAS HOUSE OF BLUES	12/9 CLIFTON PARK NORTHERN LIGHTS
11/10 DETROIT ST. ANDREW'S HALL	11/25 ANAHEIM HOUSE OF BLUES	12/10 PHILADELPHIA TLA

NORTH AMERICAN TOUR 2011

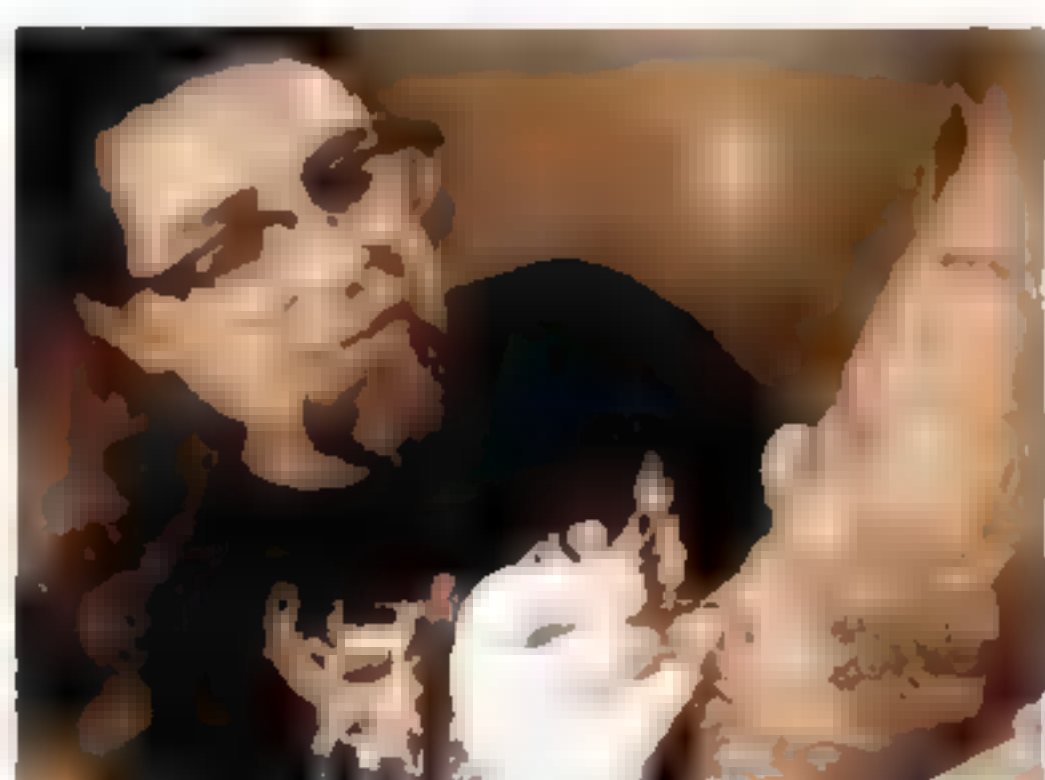
* SAINTS & SINNERS FESTIVAL



SAN DIEGO

It's no small wonder that the Navy, Coast Guard, and Marines have big outposts here.

San Diego is home to beautiful beaches, girls in bikinis, and scores of patriots. Since 1979, Fip Buchanan has been tattooing in this city whose name is German for "Whale's Vagina"—at least according to Ron Burgundy. Buchanan's range is wide, with portrait work, Japanese styles, and many other variations. "I have always felt it is important to be versatile as a tattoo artist," he says. If you're in town, you can find him working in his North Park shop, Avalon Tattoo 2 (3039 Adams Ave.), or hanging at these other joints. —Zac Clark



BEST WAY TO START THE DAY

Just a block away from the shop is The Antique Row Cafe (3002 Adams Ave.), a favorite breakfast spot for the cats at the shop, who like the omelets and French toast. It gets a bit crowded on the weekends, and rightly so, Buchanan says: "The food is good and the price is right." After the most important meal of the day, the lunch crowd clamors in for chorizo dishes and pulled pork sandwiches.

BEST LIVE MUSIC

"The Casbah [2501 Kettner Blvd.] is a great music venue, and it's also where we have our Avalon Tattoo Anniversary Party in July," Buchanan says. Open since 1989, the Casbah was a burgeoning ground for some of the greatest grunge bands of the early '90s—and there's still live music six, sometimes seven, nights a week. Other distractions include the full bar, pinball machine, a Galaga arcade game, and a pool table.

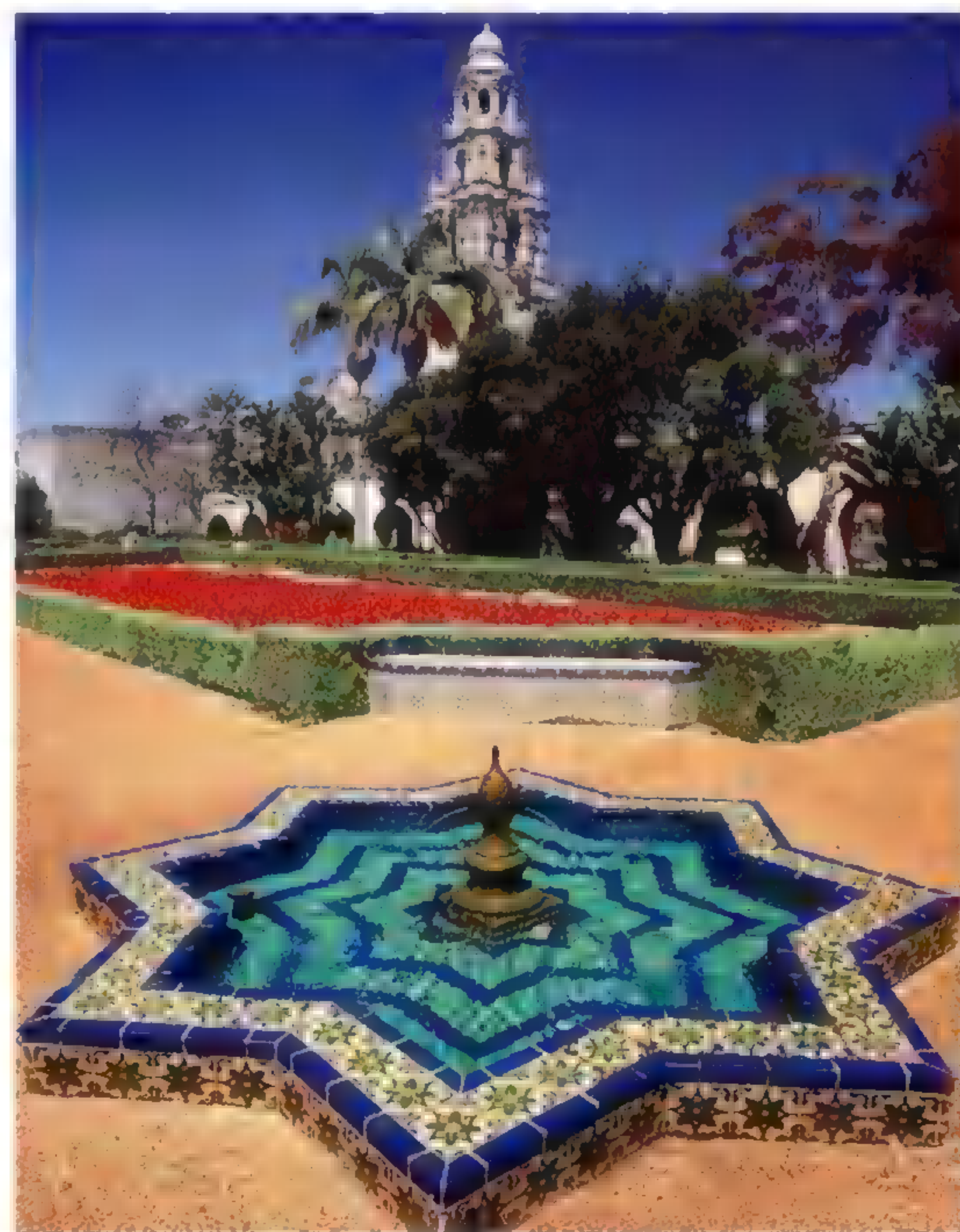


BEST WAY-BACK MACHINE

Albie's Beef Inn (1201 Hotel Circle South) is a throwback to an old country club (think *Caddyshack*). "There are lots of great nude oil paintings from the '60s," says Buchanan. Besides the décor, the spot is renowned for its super-tender prime rib and twice-baked potato. If you stop in Tuesdays and Saturdays, they have a lounge act that ranges from Sinatra-style crooners to Casablancaesque piano performers.

BEST PATCH OF GRASS

"Balboa Park [1549 El Prado] was built in the '30s, and it's a nice place to take a relaxing walk or check out the museums," Buchanan says. There are certainly museums aplenty (the complex boasts 16), as well as gardens, carnival rides, and performing art spaces. It's a big space and getting lost in it might be a treat, but it's still wise to check out the event schedule (balboapark.org) before you go.



WHERE CALIFORNIANS ROLL

Featuring great music, awesome service, and an extensive menu, Harney Sushi (3964 Harney St.) is a gem where East meets West Coast. There's a host of delicious and cleverly named rolls, including the Rollz Royce, which Buchanan says is amazing. He also holds the Bomb, James Bomb (a tempura-fried California roll with cream cheese, topped with spicy scallop, spicy mayo, and eel sauce) in high regard. After 10 p.m. they do a sushi happy hour with reduced prices and cheaper appetizers.

INK HUNTINGTON

TATTOO CO.

HARD ROCK HOTEL & CASINO LAS VEGAS



INK•ROCK•MOTO



Clockwise from top left:
Dodge Challenger; Chevy Camaro; Ford
Mustang Shelby GT 500; Challenger interior.

AMERICAN MUSCLE

Regardless of the paint job, the best cars on the road are red, white, and blue.

I got the need for speed, and there's nothing like the feel of Detroit steel. As far as I'm concerned, the Germans can use their engineering to make clocks and the Japanese can focus on cultivating vending machines that dispense schoolgirl outfits. The lanes on our highways are at least 12 feet wide, and I want my car to inhabit its due space. I want to be able to hear how fast I am going, and I want the people putting around in Priuses to hear me coming. My car is my cockpit; I want cup holders and more gauges than a shotgun. I want to give my hard-earned dollars to an American company. I'm a Mopar Man, myself, but I'll admit the U.S. has more to offer. Here are some of the best.

DODGE CHALLENGER You can get anywhere from 305 to 470 horses with a V6 or V8, depending on the model, but the 470-horsepower SRT8 Inaugural Edition with a HEMI V8 looks killer. It has the soul of an older model with the spirit and technology of a future car. Once you're done admiring

the twin racing stripes, enjoy the fast, smooth ride courtesy of a revised suspension geometry that reduces wheel hop under hard acceleration.

FORD MUSTANG Carroll Shelby deserves to be mighty proud of his legacy and the Shelby GT500. The master craftsman's namesake is applied to a beast that is powered by a 5.4-liter, 32-valve aluminum-block engine. A sweet option available is the glass roof (SPF 50) that really makes you feel like you are in a cockpit, and there are seven different shades of ambient lighting for the interior (I like to keep it humming red all the time).

CHEVY CAMARO Yes, you can get the Transformers Bumblebee special edition, but you can also shave off your eyebrows—neither is a good look. What *will* make you look boss is riding on 20-inch Pirelli PZero ultra-high-performance tires with a 6.2-liter V8 and 420 lb-ft torque. And the thing is a blast to tool around in, especially if you opt for the TAPshift controls. —Robert McCormick

milk fed and farm raised.



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INKED PEOPLE

SINGER. GAME DESIGNER. OUTLAW CHEF.

"[My father] was the man who taught me to value individuality, and suddenly he was just gone. That fueled my teen angst to the max."
—Porcelain Black

PHOTO BY JUCO

STYLIST, DECHEL MCKILLIAN; HAIR AND MAKEUP, DAWN HALEY; LOCATION, SLS HOTEL; CURLY-V TOP, MARCO MARCO SHORTS, HOUSE OF GASOLINE GLAMOUR SHOES.



inked people

PORCELAIN BLACK

A spontaneous badass with a seductive smile, Alaina Beaton is an industrial pop songwriter who goes by the name Porcelain Black. Citing her biggest musical influences as Marilyn Manson and Britney Spears, Black makes music that's both sneeringly edgy and frivolously infectious. Her hair—half ebony, half ivory—symbolizes both the volatile and fun-loving sides of her personality. But many of the tattoos, which cover her hands and arms, are more like emotional scars from years spent on the streets of Detroit.

"A lot of people in Detroit are miserable," she explains. "When you live there and you're a cute girl with your own thing going on, all these people want to do is fuck with you. They'd pick fights with me all the time and I was like, 'What you don't understand is I'm 10 times crazier than I look and I will fuck your ass up.'"

One of Black's most meaningful tattoos, the logo for her father's hair salon, Beaton Colors, covers the back of her left hand. He was the greatest early inspiration of her youth, and his death from cancer when Black was just 16 set her into a tailspin of rage. "This was the man who taught me to value individuality, and suddenly he was just gone," she says. "That fueled my teen angst to the max."

After getting kicked out of two schools for fighting, Black ran away from home. At first she was aimless, spending days begging, drinking, drugging, and busting heads; at night she'd crash at friends' houses. At 16, she moved to Ann Arbor, MI, where, attracted by her volatile charm, some tattooed University of Michigan students let her crash at their dorm for six months. Then she went on the road with Armor for Sleep, whose drummer, Nash Breen, is a childhood friend. When she returned to Detroit, she quit doing drugs and talked another friend into road-tripping with her to New York.

"My dad wanted to take me there for my 16th birthday and never got to do it, so I wanted to go for him," she says. "We checked into the W Hotel in Times Square and this lady came up to me and said, 'Are you in a band?' And I said, 'Yeah,' even though I hadn't done anything yet."

The woman introduced Black to her manager, who was struck by her appear-

ance and told her to move to Los Angeles and look him up when she turned 18. Eighteen months later, Beaton packed a suitcase and bought a ticket to Los Angeles. True to his word, the manager took her on, and two weeks later she was signed by Virgin Records under the name Porcelain and the Tramps. At first she was stoked, but her elation turned to frustration when she realized the label wanted her to perform punk-pop light songs.

"I wanted to do crazy industrial pop, and they knew that when they signed me," she says. "I went to London and recorded all this music for them and they hated it. I put it up on MySpace and over a year and a half it got 10 million plays. I was like, 'How can you tell me this isn't marketable?'"

Black wrestled with Virgin for three years before Grammy-winning producer RedOne (Lady Gaga, Usher, U2) helped set her career on track. "Someone told him about me and he was intrigued, so he invited me to his office. When he met me he said, 'I have to work with you,'" Black says, relief flooding her voice. "He got me out of my contract and literally saved my life."

The first two days they worked together, Black and RedOne wrote two songs, including her first single, "This Is What Rock 'N Roll Looks Like," a euphoric digital feast of raspy melodic vocals, four-to-the-floor beats, and keyboards that buzz like electric guitars. The track features a guest rap by Lil Wayne, who hit it off with Black and invited her to tour with him. Black and RedOne tracked the rest of her yet-untitled debut album over two incredibly productive months in Stockholm, Madrid, and Miami. The record will likely feature a guest appearance by Eminem, whose brother grew up with Black in Detroit.

Not only has RedOne helped hone her musical strengths, he has hooked her up with new management and gotten her a spot in the upcoming movie *Rock of Ages*. He's also been a therapist to her. "RedOne is the most positive person I've ever met," Black says. "He'll get on my case and reality-check me or fuckin' crack the whip if I start getting negative. He's like, 'Bitch, cheer up and smile.' And he's right. I've got a lot to be thankful for." —Jon Wiederhorn

STYLIST: DECHEL MCKILLIAN; HAIR AND MAKEUP: DAWN HALEY; LOCATION: SLS HOTEL; MARCO MARCO BODYSUIT; PLEASER SHOES





AMERICAN MCGEE

Logo of his favorite band? Check. Girl's name? Check. Japanese lettering? Check. These days, American McGee, the founder of game-development studio Spicy Horse, is regarded as one of the gaming industry's most innovative designers. Before moving to Shanghai and launching his own company, McGee got his start designing levels for Quake and Doom—titles that sent ■ shock wave through the industry. And with 2000's Alice, McGee introduced us to a much darker version of Wonderland. Over a decade later, gamers are still talking about those titles, as well as his newest, Alice: Madness Returns. But before he impressed the world with the inner workings of his creative mind, he was busy checking off every tattoo "Don't" out there.

"I have four tattoos, but I've lost count how many times I've gone in to get new tattoos because sometimes it's getting ■ new tattoo on top of something that is already there—a lot of which have silly or embarrassing stories related to them," he says. Like the time he discovered a five-pointed star on the back of his neck after a three-day *Hangover*-esque bender in San Francisco. But sometimes, embarrassing choices are really just the first rocky steps on a serendipitous path.

When it seemed like everyone was getting inked with Asian lettering, McGee was no exception. He had an artist at Tigger's in Dallas tattoo the word *American* in Japanese letters on his forearm, to the amusement of his friends. "Every time we went out, they'd try to get people to tell me what it said," he remembers. Eventually, one night, he got the real story. "We were in a Dallas

version of Benihana and this woman said, 'It doesn't really make any sense together, but the individual characters might be translated into something like cheap, drunk, street, night, woman.'" Soon, a displeased McGee was back at Tigger's. "Before I could even open my mouth, the owner told me that guy had been fired and that he'd get me fixed up. Terry Mayo tattooed over that with some neo-Borneo art. "It fit over the garbage that was on my arm, but back then it also related to the goth culture that I felt some attraction to when I was younger," he says.

That style influenced the first Alice, all the way down to the tattoos on the Cheshire Cat. But McGee isn't going to continue the circle. "I would never go so far as to get the Cheshire Cat or Alice. That would be like getting someone's name. But something symbolic, certainly." Still, he's appreciative of all of the fans who do get those characters inked. Well, almost all of them. "The most memorable tattoo that I ever saw was the most horrible," he says. "A friend sent me a link where this woman in a porn movie was tattooed just above her vagina, so that the cat's mouth was the opening to her body. It was fairly awful for me to see, but it certainly made an impression."

For his next piece, McGee is considering getting some of the alchemy symbols from the game. And after he saw a painting of a tattooed Alice at an Alice-inspired art show in Los Angeles, McGee decided she may be going under the needle too. "If we do a third one, she'll probably be sporting some ink," he says. —Rebecca Swanner

inked people

Nadia's Gnocchi Poutine

Makes 6 appetizer portions

4 tablespoons organic unsalted butter, divided
 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
 2 shallots, minced
 ¼ cup good red wine
 2 cups organic beef stock
 ¼ teaspoon dried thyme
 ½ teaspoon organic brown sugar
 Sea salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste
 1 cup fresh cheese curds
 1 lb fresh gnocchi from an Italian specialty store

Melt 3 tablespoons unsalted butter in a small pot over medium heat. Add in flour and whisk for about 6 minutes until the roux is amber-colored and begins to smell nutty. Take it off the heat and set aside. Next, in a medium-sized saucepan, heat 2 tablespoons of extra-virgin olive oil over medium heat. Add the minced shallots and sauté until the edges are crisp and golden, about 5 minutes. Deglaze the saucepan with the red wine and reduce for 30 seconds. Add the beef stock, thyme, brown sugar, roux, and salt and pepper, then whisk together. Bring the gravy to a simmer and let it reduce for 15 minutes, stirring frequently. In the last 45 seconds of cooking, mix in the cheese curds so they melt slightly. Remove the gravy from heat, and cover. Cook the gnocchi in boiling water for about a minute or until they begin to float to top, then cook for another minute. Heat remaining 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil and remaining 1 tablespoon butter in a nonstick pan over medium-high heat. Add the gnocchi in a single layer, and pan-sear them for about 1 minute per side, or until slightly golden. Plate a portion of pan-seared gnocchi in a shallow bowl, and top with about ⅓ cup cheese-gravy. Lightly toss and serve piping hot.

NADIA G

You're flicking through the late-night television options in the haze of half sleep when you pause on the Cooking Channel because of the incongruity of what you're hearing and what you're seeing. From behind a kitchen counter on a cooking-show set that's art-directed within a half inch of its life, a woman with the stage presence of Rachael Ray and the barely-legal beauty of Avril Lavigne circa 2002 gesticulates as if to say, "You talkin' to me?" The camera cuts to her hands, which are caressing root vegetables as expertly as Martha Stewart while a voice that sounds like a Canadian (female) Tony Sirico narrates the particulars of a beef stew recipe. *What* is going on? Push the remote's info button and you'll discover you've entered Nadia G's *Bitchin' Kitchen*.

"People either love it or love to hate it," Nadia G (for Giosia) says of her show, a comedy-slash-cooking-show spun off from the web series of the same name she began producing in 2009. The hate is usually for what Giosia calls her "loud mouth," but the love is for the laughs (like a music video with lyrics dissing the Comic Sans font and a recurring skit with an Israeli spice agent), the rock 'n' roll styling, and, of course, the cooking.

Giosia's repertoire is heavy on comfort food and Italian favorites—stuff that's as delicious now as it will be in 30 years, regardless of the cooking trend of the moment. "You know the whole nose-to-tail movement with all the chefs who want us to eat every part of the animal? They can go right ahead and eat gizzards so I don't have to," she laughs. "I'd much rather have some dirty buttermilk fried chicken or a nice plate of pasta fagioli loaded with pecorino." Or, perhaps, fettuccine rosé topped with shrimp and sprinkled with Parmigiano-Reggiano. "I

made that dish one time and someone e-mailed me to say no real Italian would put cheese on seafood," Giosia says. "I said, 'Dear Sir, If you don't want to use Parmesan, you can always use a delicate sprinkling of Go Fuck Yourself.'"

If she doesn't fit in with the food snobs, so be it—she didn't really fit into the conservative Italian Montreal neighborhood where she grew up either. "I got expelled and sent to the high school where you couldn't have sharp objects," she says. "The soccer mom, picket fence thing wasn't for me. I was all about punk rock and rebellion." And she has some leftover tattoos to prove it. "I call them my young and inebriated collection," she says. "I also have a nil symbol on my wrist. When I got it, I was thinking it was badass, like, nothing, zero, nihilistic. I had this German boyfriend, and I was proud to show him, and he's going, 'Das is Underground.' And I was like, 'Yeah! Totally underground!' But he meant Underground, as in the subway in London. And he was right—so I now have the London subway logo permanently tattooed on my wrist." But she's happy with her artwork, including the four tattoos she designed herself. "They're just a way to express myself, to tell the world: Listen here, you nerds, I'm different ... just like everybody else."

And with that, Giosia proves she's in on the joke. So what if a few internet haters don't like her loud voice—she's laughing her way through her second book, *Cookin' for Trouble*, which comes out this month, and on to the second season of her show, which is set to premiere later this fall. "I don't take myself too seriously," she says. "It's probably why I love being in the kitchen. That's where everything goes down, where the biggest laughs and the best celebrations happen." —Jennifer Goldstein

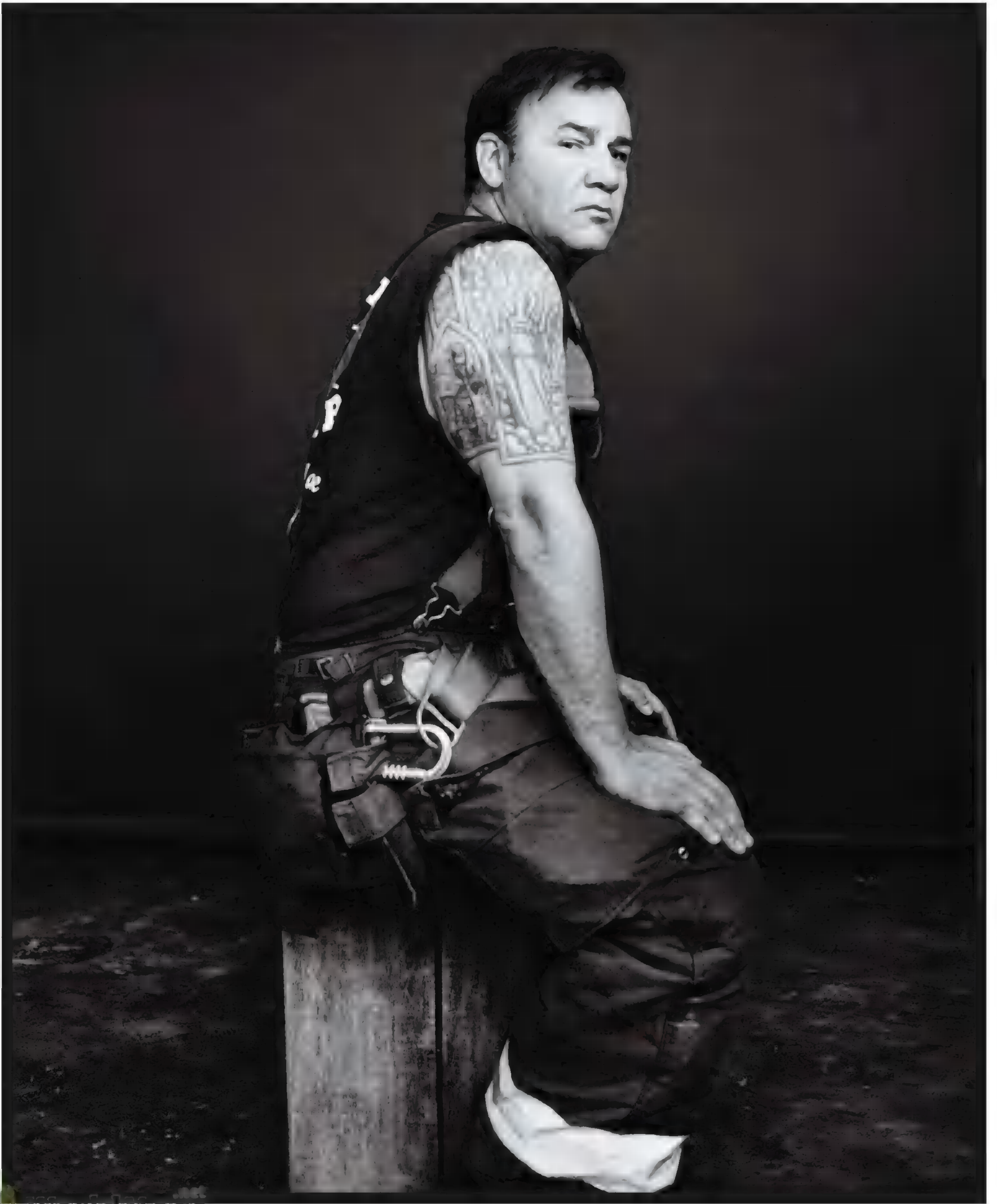




We Never Forgot

We all remember where we were on September 11, 2001.
These brave men were at the World Trade Center.

BY RACHEL KHONA PHOTOS BY MIKE MCGREGOR



Joe Scarda

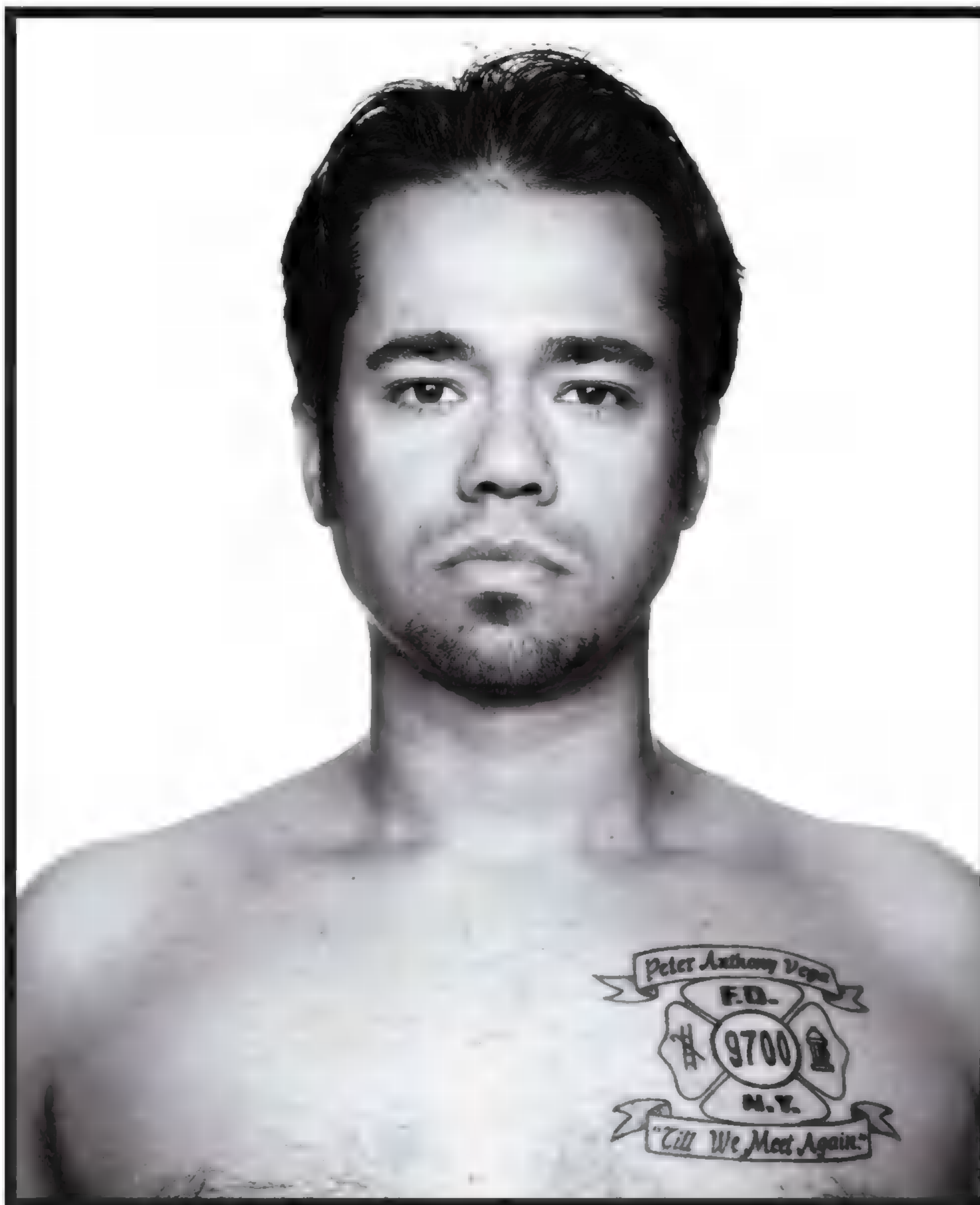


Firefighter Joe Scarda was still a teacher on September 10, when he took his medical test for the fire academy. Though he wasn't yet a firefighter, he was about to face his biggest challenge of all. Scarda, along with his class, was still inside their school when the first tower started to come crumbling down. The faculty brought the kids down to Battery Park to keep them safe, and afterward Scarda headed down to Ground Zero, thinking his certification in first aid and CPR would be helpful. But when he got down there, the area was a ghost town and he was told only emergency personnel were authorized to help.

The experience never left him. And it became even more meaningful when he learned one of his good

friends, firefighter Daniel Suhr, died when someone jumping from the towers landed on him. In memory of his fallen friend and to commemorate his transition from teacher to firefighter, Scarda had a memorial tattoo inked by renowned NYC artist Anil Gupta. "He's a real spiritual guy," Scarda says of Gupta. "He had a dream the night before of an hourglass breaking through a window. And he tells me he'd be honored to tattoo it on me." The hourglass stems are made of the numbers 911 and 343, to represent the number of firefighters who perished that day. To complete the tattoo, Scarda had Suhr's football jersey number tattooed, as well as a picture of a child and a self-portrait of him in his firefighter gear.

David Rosenberg



Months after the attacks, Peter Vega was discovered in the wreckage of the Marriott Hotel—identified in part by his distinctive yin-yang tattoo. Eventually, his brother David Rosenberg, also a firefighter, learned what had happened. It seems Vega, along with fellow firefighters from Ladder 118, had gone into the hotel to free people trapped in an elevator after the hotel swimming pool had cracked and flooded the elevator shafts. The people they freed made it to safety, but Vega and five others from Ladder 118 stayed to help more people escape, and, as a result, perished when the towers fell.

On 9/11, Rosenberg was sleeping late, but a phone call from his mother woke him from his slumber. He soon learned his older brother was at the World Trade Center, and when a week had gone by and Vega still hadn't been found, Rosenberg knew his brother wasn't coming back. As a tribute, Rosenberg had a memorial tattoo inked on his chest. "Peter was good to so many people whether they were close to him or barely knew him," Rosenberg says. "He wasn't perfect, but he was a good man and a great big brother. I constantly miss him."



Santo Ciccarello

FDNY calendar star Santo Ciccarello (also pictured on page 42) isn't all good looks. This lieutenant firefighter was a police officer on 9/11, but soon realized his true calling was with NYC's bravest. He was asleep the morning of 9/11 when his phone started ringing off the hook. He finally picked up and, at the behest of his friend, turned on the TV to watch in horror as the second plane hit the South Tower. But unlike most people, Ciccarello was unable to just stay at home transfixed to the news. After overcoming his initial shock, he knew that he immediately had to report to his precinct.

Together with several other officers, Ciccarello made it to Ground Zero hours later, where he was assigned to search and rescue. The scenes shown on TV didn't

come remotely close to what Ciccarello and his fellow responders saw. "It was like a third world country down there," he remembers. "You couldn't even put it in words. We found pieces and parts of people, rarely a whole body." Ciccarello continued to work on search and rescue for months, looking for signs of life alongside his father, a retired New York City firefighter who wanted to help with rescue efforts despite his retired status.

Becoming a New York City firefighter was less a shift in career than it was answering a calling. "I was very street smart, so I just got pulled into the police force," he says. "But I'd always wanted to be a fireman. You'll hear from any fireman that you ever speak to that it's the best job in the world."

INKED GIRL

ALESANDRA
NICOLE

PHOTOS BY
WARWICK SAINT

PAGE 48



**“I DON'T NEED
TATTOOS FOR
ATTENTION;
I THINK I'VE
GOT THAT
DOWN.”**



Alesandra Nicole is a gun-toting badass. Okay, so her gun collection doesn't go past the tattoos on her hips, but the fact that you're going to fall in love with her is a sure shot. "I started getting tattoos at 16," she says. "I don't really brag about that. I was acting out of rebellion ... I didn't want to be cookie-cutter. I wanted to get skulls and guns tattooed around my hips and lean as far to the offensive side as I could."

When this anything-but-cookie-cutter Native American was young, she always imagined her future self as someone with tattoos. "I used to draw tattoos all over my arms, little stars, and take pictures with my webcam then quickly delete them—what a dork." These days, she tries to leave the drawing to her artist, and her tattoo collection has broadened a bit. "I've got silly matching tattoos with my girlfriends and more serious things like a tribute to my mom, a tribute to my brother who served in the Navy, and a tribute to my hometown, Baltimore. I think it's important to get tattoos that speak to you, that speak about you. I don't need tattoos for attention; I think I've got that down. I tattooed myself because this is who I am. I was born this way, baby! Well, kind of."

The Baltimore beauty who invokes Lady Gaga also sees herself on the stage. "I've dreamed about being a pop star since I bought my first CD, Mariah Carey's *Daydream*. I just love entertaining people. I love making people laugh, inspiring them, motivating. My parents put me in lessons to be an actress, but I just didn't have a huge passion for acting. I'm pretty sure I got kicked out of the high school play for my outbursts before opening night. And I was the lead! My understudy probably saw it coming. It's okay—I want to be a pop star, not an actress."

Will we be hearing the inked-up star belt out some lyrics soon? "I'm currently in the writing-studio process of my debut dance record," she says. For now, we'll have to catch Alesandra belting some Britney in her car and assisting pop stars. "I helped Katy Perry into a Denny's uniform at a breakfast pit-stop on the Warped Tour," she says. "But we didn't kiss." —Brittany Ineson





Kiki De Montparnasse bra and underwear; Raphael Young heels.
 Page 49: Patterson J. Kincaid kimono; Brian Atwood heels.
 Page 50: Agent Provocateur bra and underwear. Page 51: Kiki De Montparnasse bra and underwear; Raphael Young heels.
 Opposite: Kiki De Montparnasse bra and boy shorts.

Hair: Lacy Redway at seemanagement.com

Makeup: Hector Simancas for MAC Cosmetics at Factory Downtown



AS AMERICAN AS...

All hail heritage brands and classic colors.

PHOTOS BY TOM MEDVEDICH

NATIONAL ICONS

From top left: Stetson Expedition hat, Ilbean.com; Woolrich John Rich & Bros. William SP shirt, available at Ron Herman L.A., 323-651-4129; PF Flyers Center City sneaker, shoppfflyers.com; Dickies 1922 pants, dickies.com; Timberland boot, timberland.com; Penfield Wayland shirt, penfieldusa.com; Levi's Trucker jacket, levis.com; Ray-Ban sunglasses, ray-ban.com.

**RED, WHITE,
AND BUTTONED**

From top: Zanerobe
B. Cyrus shirt,
zanerobe.com; True
Love False Idols Trust
Fund shirt, tlfi-la.com;
Artisan De Luxe shirt,
artisandeluxe.com;
American Apparel
short-sleeved shirt,
store.americanapparel.
net; Mark McNairy shirt,
markmcnairy.com.

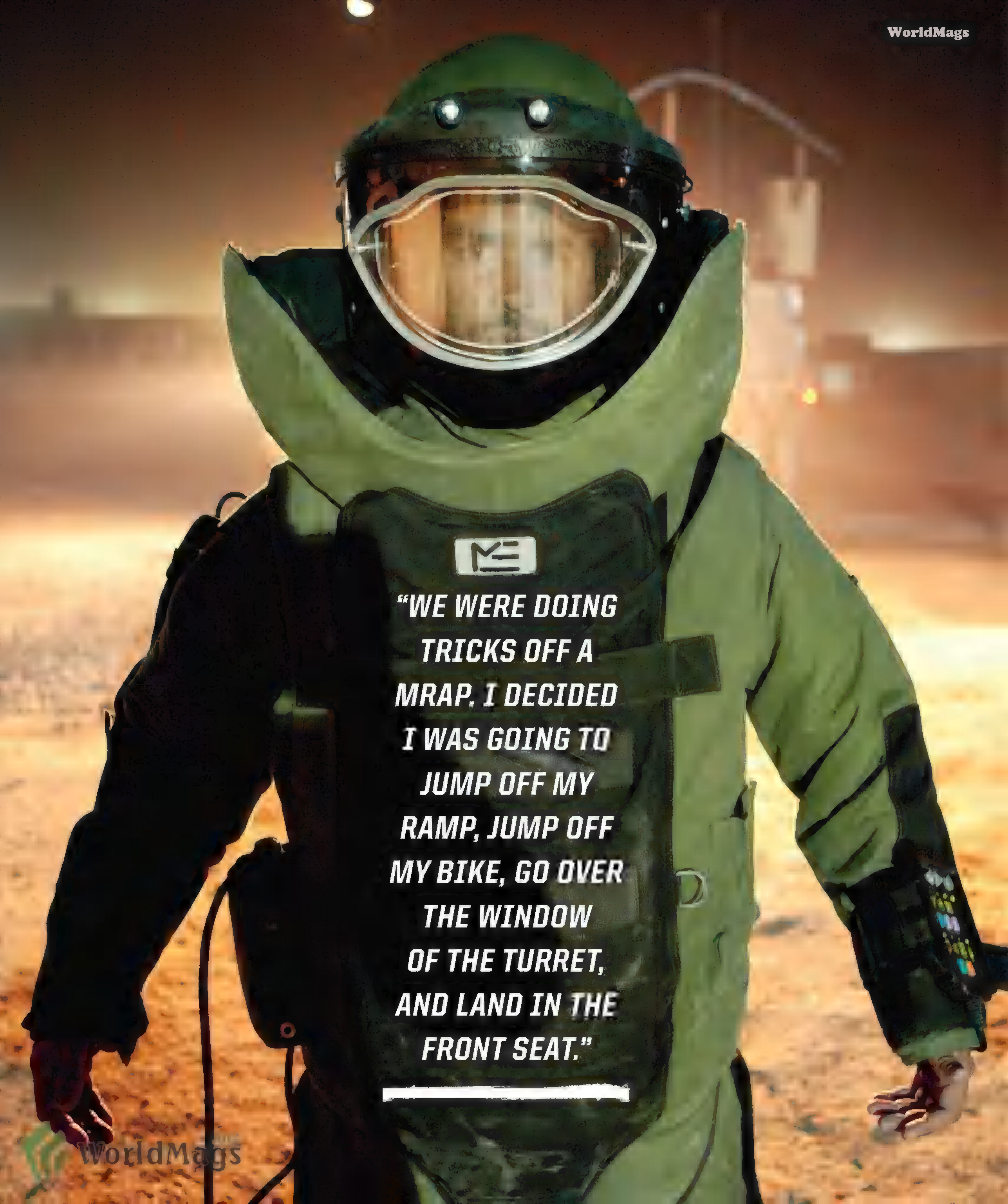




DON'T TREAD ON ME

BMXER ROOFTOP, OF *LA INK* AND *STRANGERS IN DANGER*, CELEBRATES FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY, AND OUR TROOPS DURING HIS TOUR OF IRAQ.

BY ROCKY RAKOVIC SEPTEMBER 2011 PAGE 57



***"WE WERE DOING
TRICKS OFF A
MRAP. I DECIDED
I WAS GOING TO
JUMP OFF MY
RAMP, JUMP OFF
MY BIKE, GO OVER
THE WINDOW
OF THE TURRET,
AND LAND IN THE
FRONT SEAT."***



AS AMERICANS WE ALWAYS WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S NEW, WHAT'S NEXT, WHAT'S TRENDING ON TWITTER. AND WHILE WE ALL HAVE PATRIOTISM IN OUR HEARTS AND WE WAVED THE FLAG WITH VIGOR WHEN OUR TROOPS SHIPPED OUT TO IRAQ IN 2003, IT'S EASY TO FORGET THERE ARE STILL MEN AND WOMEN DYING OVER THERE TO PRESERVE HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY FOR PEOPLE THEY HAVE NEVER MET, INCLUDING IRAQIS—AND YOU AND ME. BUT MIKE ESCAMILLA, A.K.A. ROOFTOP, AND HIS BMX FRIENDS ARE A FEW AMERICANS WHO STILL HAVE THE TROOPS IN THE FRONT OF THE BRAIN. IN JUNE, THEY DROPPED INTO THE WAR ZONE TO SHOW THEIR GRATITUDE FOR THOSE FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT BY DOING FLIPS ON THE FRONT LINES.

Harley-Davidson brought Escamilla, along with Chad Kagy, Brian Kachinsky, Anthony Napolitan, Drew Bezanson, Zack Yankush, Mykel Larrin, Ron Kimler, and Nate Wessel, to Iraq for Bikes Over Baghdad, a sort of a X-USO tour. "When I was first invited I was really excited. My parents and my girlfriend weren't psyched on it, but there was no question in my head—I was going," Escamilla says.

The intent of the tour is to take the soldiers' minds off the danger zone for at least an hour. "These guys live in the worst place ever," Escamilla says. "It is 139 degrees, you are eating the same kind of food every day, and not having the luxuries we take for granted. If there's something that, for an hour, makes them feel like they are home—you have no idea how appreciative these guys are. It is like the most awesome crowd you have ever had. They come up to you after the show and their stories about finding IEDs and being under attack sound like they're from movies. I got hundreds and hundreds of friend requests on Facebook, and months later they still write me on a regular basis. These are people who are really touched by our visit, and now we've become a part of their journey in the war."

Bikes Over Baghdad visited a number of military bases where they set up skate parks in the sand. "We would try to incorporate stuff that the troops use every day, like tanks, to make the experience cool for them," Escamilla says. "At one stop we were doing tricks off a MRAP [Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle] eight feet in the air. I looked at the turret, where the gun goes, and I decided that I was going to jump off my ramp, jump off my bike, go over the window of the turret, and land in the front seat. It was fun—I made it clean except for nicking my knee a little bit."

It would have been easy for a company to pay Katy Perry a king's ransom to sing a few tunes and snap a few photos, but Bikes Over Baghdad went above and beyond. Not only did the guys put on an exposition, but they made sure to

shake hands with every soldier. And Harley-Davidson made sure that everyone walked away with a gift; some even got brand-new BMX bikes.* "We tried to give away bikes to riders out there," says Escamilla. "You should see the ramps they've made in a place that looks like Tatooine from Star Wars."

Along with tricks for ramp-building, the military personnel traded war and ink stories with the BMXers. Escamilla, who was Kat Von D's roommate on *LA Ink*, talked about his tattoos. "One of my favorites Kat just finished up. It's an interpretation of the California flag that goes down my hip. The other is one of the most politically incorrect tattoos ever. I got it at Saigon Ink in Vietnam a few months ago, and it's an ear on my leg. My dad served in Vietnam so I figured I'd bring him back a Vietnamese ear. It's a little rough, but the ear is my favorite right now because it's so funny."

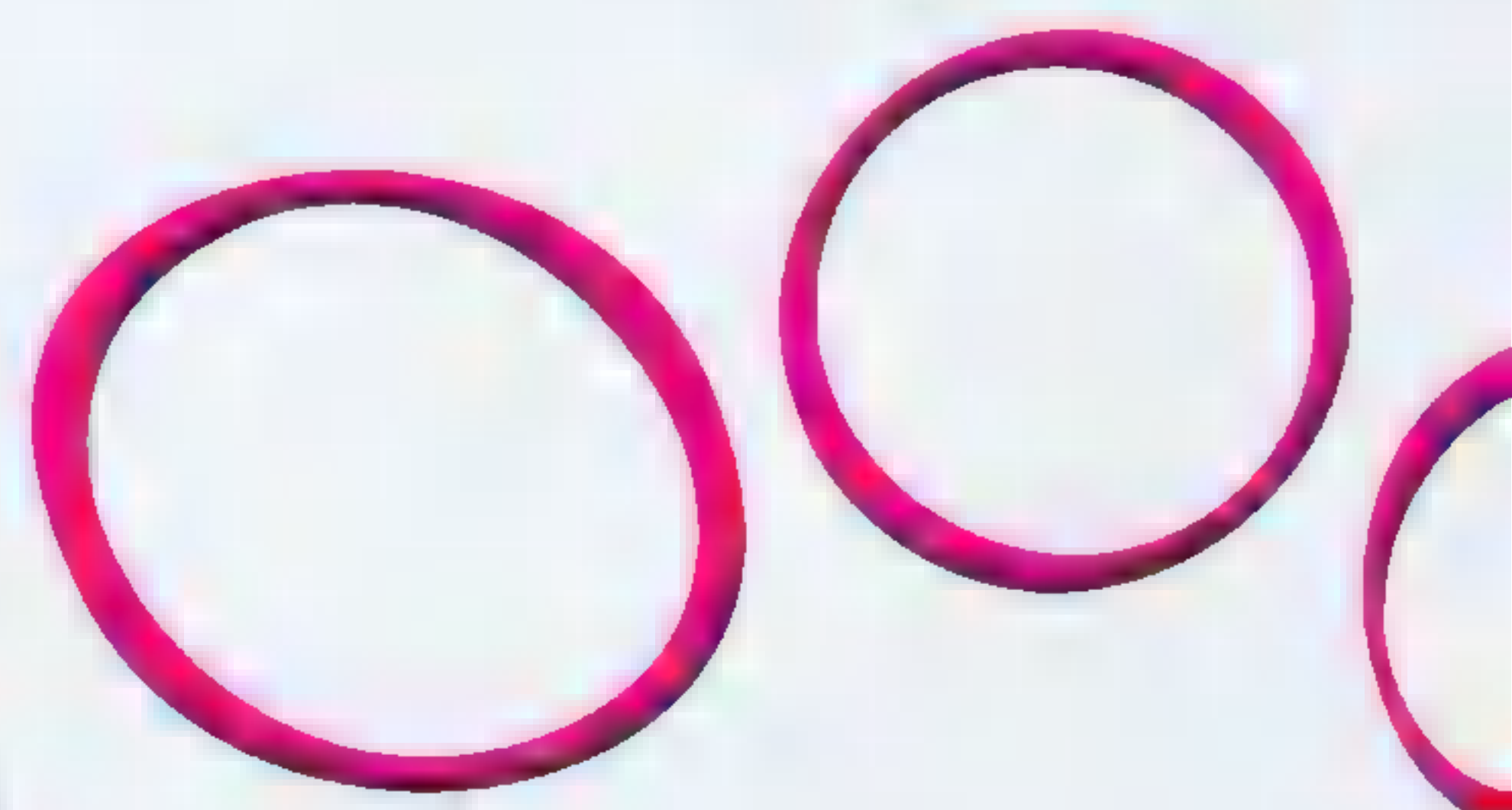
You'll see Escamilla getting new work from Dan Smith this season on *LA Ink*, and let's just say things didn't turn out like they were planned. He's also starring in a new Fuel show called *Strangers in Danger*. "It's a cross between Anthony Bourdain's *No Reservations* and *Dirty Jobs*," he says. Escamilla and Yankush, a.k.a. Catfish, go to places like Vietnam to dig up unexploded ordnance and do other insane shit. "What we [BMXers] do is dangerous, but it is calculated and we're in control," he says. "With these guys in Iraq, your battalion or group is called and told it's time to go, and though you are trained, you have no idea what danger you are walking into."

Escamilla and the rest of the Bikes Over Baghdad tour got just a taste of the danger when a base was attacked during the final curtain of one of their shows. "The announcer came on and dismissed the medevac people to attend to injuries," he says. "We were helpless in the situation. But there are 18-year-old men dying out here every day for all of us." ■

*WE DON'T HAVE BIKES TO GIVE AWAY, BUT IF YOU'RE SERVING OVERSEAS AND WOULD LIKE AN INKED CARE PACKAGE, HIT US UP AT EDITOR@INKEDMAG.COM AND WE'LL SEE WHAT WE CAN SEND YOU.

PHOTOS: PREVIOUS SPREAD, WALTER PIERINGER; LEFT, WALTER PIERINGER; THIS PAGE, KEITH MULLIGAN

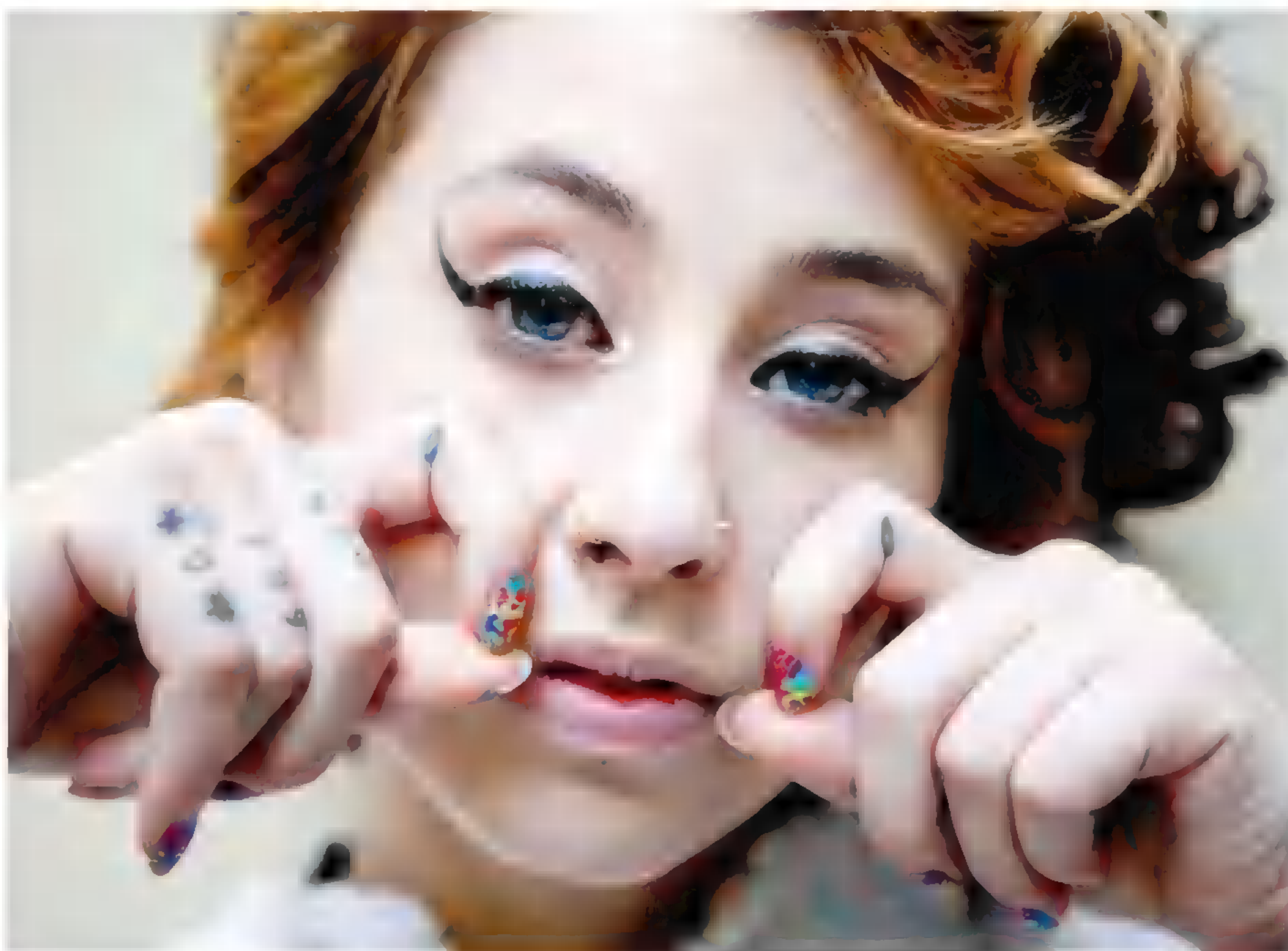
Who the hell is
KREAYSIAWWW?





This girl came out of nowhere, via Oakland, to dominate the earbuds of the hip this summer with the single "Gucci Gucci." And off the back of just that song, she signed a record deal with Sony (reportedly worth \$1 million) to put out her first album. Now she's famous, yet still an enigma, so we asked her to introduce herself.

PHOTOS BY
MAGDALENA WOSINSKA



KREAYSHAWN ON GETTIN' MONEY I grew up so broke that even this morning I got up and for breakfast I got a cup of noodles, Hot Cheetos, a pack of cigarettes, and some Swishers. I will never get used to having money. I never thought signing a deal was something that I'd want to do. But the record company is hella chill. I always thought that you sign a deal and then you lose everything. But it's definitely a good move in my life. Basically, the label said, "Do whatever you want, we are trusting you." They are even letting me design the single art.

NEWFOUND FAME The only thing that's overwhelming is the press. This lady hit me up and asked me, "How did you go from a little white girl to a rapper overnight?" And I'm like, Oh, that is scandalous—I would never ask anyone else that. I never thought of myself as a little white girl, and I never thought of myself as a rapper. I'm acting black because I am a rapper? Does that mean this woman thinks that Obama is acting white because he's the President?

OAKTOWN I think the fact that I'm from Oakland is going to help me have a wide audience range. I've been telling everyone in Oakland, "C'mon, Oakland, this is our time! Get it together." I feel like music that comes out of the Bay Area is only music for the Bay Area. The lifestyle in Oakland is exotic; it's the balance between being a goon and an artist that makes it fun for everyone. Now I come out and Bay Area people are like, Oh shit! I tell my pardners, Get out this box and make music for everybody! Don't just ride around in Oakland and shit.

HER SOUND I make my music for everyone to listen to, whether it's a 13-year-old girl who might say her favorite song is "Gucci Gucci" or people like Snoop Dogg, who will also say it's their favorite song. I

want a wide audience range. I wouldn't say that my music is influenced by certain artists. I'm just a person who likes to fuse genres together. My mom is a musician and there was always music in the house. She was in an all-girl surf punk band called Trashwomen, so that's where I get my desire for genre fusion. She would listen to everything from Tito Puente to Kool Keith to Mos Def to Wyclef's *Carnival* CD. The album I'm working on is a lot of fucking different sounds. I want to use everything, including New Orleans bounce music and old-school Memphis stuff. It's going to be crazy.

WHAT SHE ROCKS I just kind of put stuff on and wear it with confidence and it usually comes off pretty good. I grew up broke so I was always in Goodwill. When we would go shopping we would say, "Let's hit Goodwill," because at the mall we could only afford two shirts, but if we went to Goodwill we could get 10 things. And it is just funner: It's cool because you get to dip around and test things out, and it's an experience. That's just kind of how I dress, for fun.

"GUCCI GUCCI" The message of the song is definitely not to let label brands define who you are. I never really had a desire to go to a Gucci store or to save up my paycheck for a Louis Vuitton belt. There's nothing wrong with wearing Gucci and Louis, but you have to wear it right. Don't let it make you who you are. So far, I haven't heard from Gucci or Louis—and I hope I don't, either. You know who we did hear from? In the video I ride a Charger, and someone from Dodge hit up the director and asked if we got permission from Dodge to use the car in the video. And we were like, What the fuck? No. If everybody had to get permission you'd never see a luxury car with big rims in a rap video.

A lot of big companies don't want to be associated with anything but the high life, and they make me sick. Some big fashion labels even incinerate their excess clothes because they don't want homeless people wearing them! That's horrible.

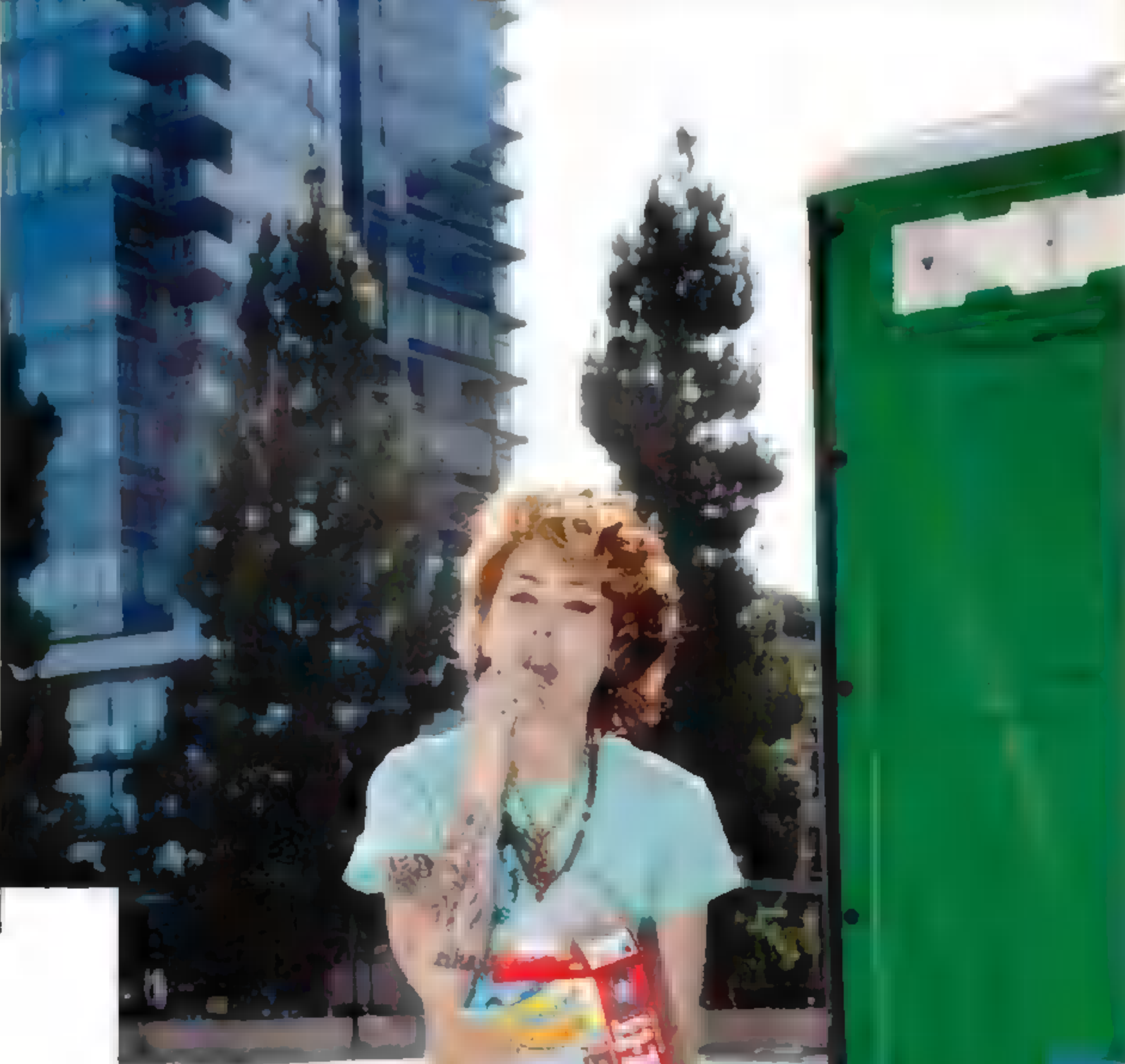
KREAYSHAWN ON TATTOOS I decided to get my first tattoo while at the tattoo shop when my sister was getting hers. I was like, They are tattooing 15-year-old kids—I'm down! It's my favorite because it's so old. It doesn't look like any of my other tattoos because they are all so bright and vibrant and it's weathered.

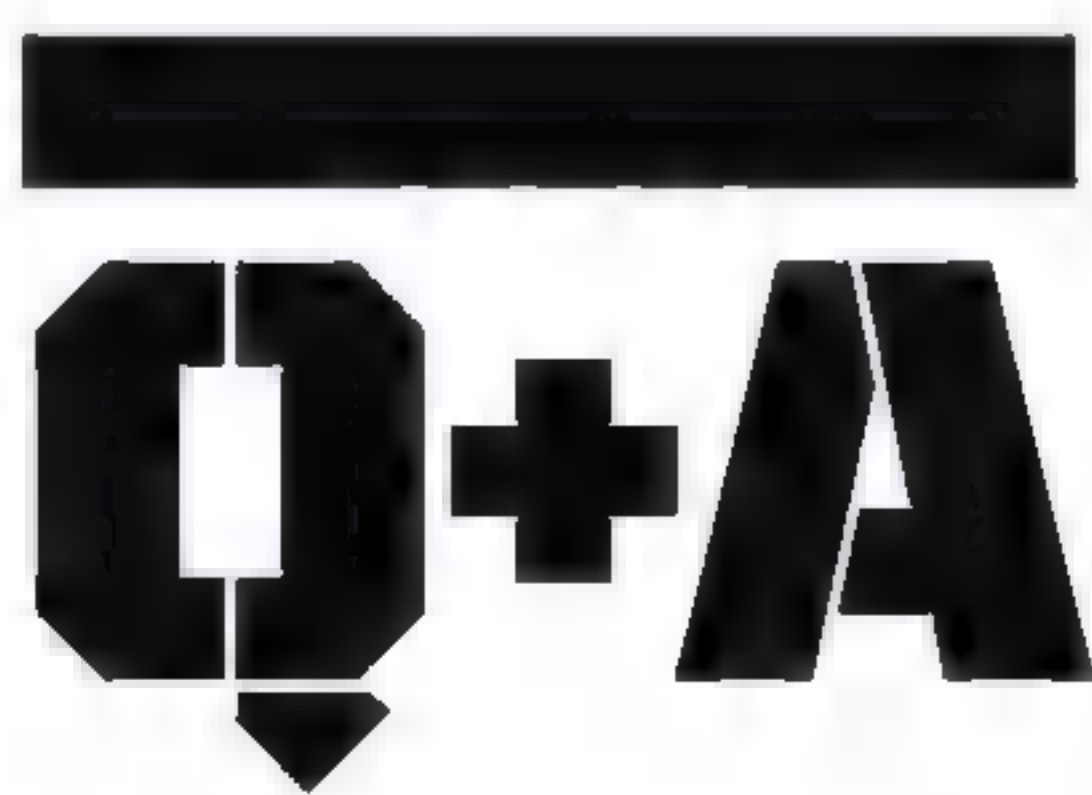
Most of my tattoos are Bay Area. I usually go to this guy Dillion Forte, but he has been catting off and not finishing my work—you know how tattoo artists can't stay in the same shop for a fucking month. Yeah, that's my pardner. He does all my tattoos but he's fucking with me. I hope he reads this and finishes my side piece, 'cause it isn't finished right now; it's just a sketch, and I'm embarrassed.

My tattoos are stamps. I want to do something that ties them all together, because I get a \$120 tattoo at a time. I would be going through a change or something big would happen and I'd get that moment where I'd say, I need a fucking tattoo! Shit is going down, so I need a tattoo! I'm addicted. Last time I counted I had 23 tattoos, so it's almost like every year of my life has this moment where I get this tattoo. I look at them and can remember how I was feeling at the time. Like, the burger mouse just came from wanting to get a random tattoo. I was at the shop looking at a whole bunch of designs and I got to thinking: What would be the sickest-looking one? And I was like, Fuck it, let's do it. It's usually an emotional thing for me, and always super impulse. I have been thinking about more tattoos. I have the money now. There is definitely going to be a tattoo for this new experience—it is going to be large and sick.

You know how artists are: They don't like their own shit. I don't like to draw my own tattoos. I did the whole outline for the bow on my chest myself, and it was so fucked up because I was tattooing myself in the mirror. But I got it fixed so it looks a little bit normal. I would always fuck around with the tattoo gun and give myself tattoos like the hearts around my ankle. I would love to be a tattoo artist someday but I feel like that would have to wait for now.

KREAYSHAWN ON KREAYSHAWN I just want people to view me as a creative artist, not a normal music artist. I want other artists to go, Oh, shit, Kreyashawn—I'm going to hit her up to do this, and that, and this. I want people to think I can put my hands in everything and that I'm respected in each department. Rapping is what got everybody's attention, but I actually started off directing music videos and doing graphic design. But it has all helped me to get where I am right now, like how making music helps me edit music videos better because I know how to find the beat. I am not some interchangeable girl who has songs written for her. I made the name Kreyashawn from the word *creation*, and I was thinking that I wanted to be a creative person who does everything. ■





WEE-MAN

Jason Acuña talks tacos, tattoos, and tricks.

BY CHARLIE CONNELL PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER BEYER

Every high school guidance counselor says the easiest way to pick a career is to figure out what you love to do and that will be your career. This is easy advice if you love fixing cars or building things. What if the things you loved were pulling pranks, skateboarding, doing bodily harm to your friends, and eating tacos down by the beach? Not a problem for Jason “Wee-Man” Acuña. From a position in the shipping department of venerable skate mag *Big Brother*, he turned those interests into a thriving career. Whether he’s skating while dressed like an Oompa-Loompa or punching Johnny Knoxville in a sensitive area, Wee-Man has been entertaining the masses with his antics for years. And shortly after *Jackass* collaborator Ryan Dunn passed away in June, Wee-Man paid tribute to his fallen friend in the most fitting way, by getting a tattoo of his portrait. “Dunn was a tattoo guy and he would have done the same thing,” Acuña says.

INKED: How did you become the proud owner of a taco joint?

JASON ACUÑA: I always joked that I’d own a taco shop. A while ago I did *Celebrity Circus*, and while the news was interviewing us, these celebrity people are like, “Oh, I have this fancy restaurant” and all this. I’m like, Look at these fucking schmucks! After I win this thing I’m going to fucking open a taco shop. [He finished third.] I was still joking about it when a friend was working in a warehouse, and he kept eating Chronic Tacos and said, “Man, we need to bring this down by the beach where we grew up.” So I’m like, all right, see if you can get a hold of the owner. We go down on a Friday night, we show up at 8 o’clock, and meet the two guys. We get as wasted as we can, we’re having a blast, and we’re like, “We can’t wait to do this together. Let’s be in business together.”

Most good business deals are done while drunk. Oh, dude, of course they are! All my contracts are handwritten on a napkin.

Do you actually do anything with the shop, or did you just slap your name on it and walk away? I’ve done it all. I work the register a little and people trip out, like, What are you doing working here? For a little while right before I broke my back I was doing “Wee-Man Wednesdays,” and every Wednesday got bigger and bigger and we had big crowds. I’m always down there. I figured I have to be hands-on. I’m weird about that. I hate fake things and I hate when people aren’t real. That’s when I think things feel good—when they feel real, when somebody’s true about it and their heart’s behind it.

You mentioned that you broke your back.

Yeah, I did it skateboarding in January. We were out in this park and I slipped off a ledge, and the last vertebra of my back, L5, slipped out. I hit my tailbone and broke my tailbone. It wasn’t fun at all. Then I was out for a while and I didn’t want to get surgery. I got the epidural shot and I started losing nerve feeling in my legs. Then I decided that I better have the surgery, so on May 9 I had the surgery. Now I’m just getting back to better than normal.

Are you still going to be able to skate? I’m amped to. I’m going to be doing skateboarding until the grave pulls me in. My doctor actually said that I’m stronger and better than I was before I broke my back. She had to do work on four vertebrae, so I have a six-inch scar on my back. Heck yeah! I have a tramp scar now, instead of a tramp stamp. *[Laughs.]*

Speaking of injuries, how did you get involved with all of the *Jackass* high jinks? I was doing the shipping department very horribly at *Big Brother*. The first time I thought, Yeah, I know what to do. You put the magazine in, put the address on it, and send it out. Well, when you do it in bulk you have to do it by zip codes and all this. We rolled up to the post office and pretty much dumped them in the back. You could see the post office guy flipping us off. Then [Jeff] Tremaine got a call that the job was done horribly, and we all had to go back to the post office to redo it.



And then you ended up being involved in the first Big Brother video. Yeah, *Shit* was the first video. Jeff wanted to put out a skate video since it was a skateboard magazine. He also wanted to put out the so-called *Jackass* stuff in between everything. He suggested to me, Hey, let's paint you blue and dye your hair orange and just run around the streets of Beverly Hills and let's just film footage like that. And I was like, Sounds good to me.

When did you guys first realize that you had something that would catch on and get huge? It was around the third or fourth video that Jeff and everybody realized that these *Big Brother* videos that were just skateboarding any which way and *Jackass* stuff were outselling hot skateboarding videos. We were wondering why, and then we realized mainstream people outside of the skateboarding industry were buying these videos just to see the *Jackass* stuff.

Big Brother is a skating magazine, and you are a skater. Did it ever bother you that it was the pranks as opposed to the skating that was getting the attention? No, 'cause ever since I was growing up I was pulling pranks on the public anyway. It's stuff that I was always doing, so it didn't bother me at all. It was something where

red carpet, being king of the neighborhood. People do love the really simple ones. It's insane. That one came to mind while we were driving around. What made that happen is that we would wrap Knoxville up in the red carpet and I would roll him down stairs, so by the time it unrolled he would be all dizzy and I would hit him in the nuts or kick him in the nuts just to get a reaction. I could only beat him up enough so that we would still have half a day to film, and that's when we came up with dragging me behind the van.

You have a fair amount of scars and tattoos. Tell us about some of your first ink. My very first tattoo is covered up now. It was a burning heart with a girl's name in it. When I went and got that covered up I had to put the "Man's Ruin" tattoo over it, which has a naked girl on it, a martini glass, and some cards and dice. So it's a perfect cover-up. People always ask what it is and I just tell them I love women, drinking, and gambling. My second tattoo was also kind of a cheesy one; it was a girl flying on a red rocket, but it just looked really elementary. So I lasered it twice and eventually Dejah Garcia at Trusted Tattoo did a great job covering it with a beautiful full sleeve. That one's pretty significant, and it covered up a full crappy one and you can't even tell.

It seems that in this day and age with social networking, everyone's life is out there. Do you think that is just part of being a celebrity and not worth fighting against? Yep. When I was growing up I read an interview about Flea from The Red Hot Chili Peppers. He'd been recording all day and he had just sat down to eat and a girl came up who wanted his autograph and he burst out, "Leave me alone." For someone who read that when I was younger I thought, "Wow, he was a dick right then." [But then] I sat back and thought, You never know, he probably hadn't eaten in eight hours, he was bombarded by a hundred people, and you don't see all that. It's not, "He hugged and kissed 20,000 people." I've had to stand back and eat somewhere too, and someone is like, "Hey! Hi!" and I'm like, "Yeah, hi." Right then and there they don't know that I found out that Dunn passed away or that something happened. And then they're like, "Oh my God, I saw Wee-Man and he's a jerk. I said hi and he just shrugged me off." And then that gets blasted on Facebook and Twitter.

Let's talk about the portrait tattoo you got in tribute to Dunn that reads "Random Hero!" Who did that for you? My buddy Grant Cobb from Spotlight Tattoo did it, and he's an

"Film is forever; the pain only hurts for a little while."

skateboarding comes natural, and so does pulling pranks on people. So it didn't bother me one bit. It's an easy day's work.

Are you Jackass guys ever able to be comfortable around each other? Nope. You assume the worst—always have one hand over your nuts and sleep with one eye open.

What if you were to wear a cup? Would that be a dishonorable thing? Yeah, then you are a pussy. Whenever you get caught with your hand slipping, something is going to happen. Plus, you don't want to wreck gold footage—know what I mean? Film is forever; the pain only hurts for a little while.

Of the countless pranks you have pulled, which ones are the most memorable? They are all memorable in some way. Like when I got blown off the airboat in the river and Manny [Puig] thought I was going to be dead, or me bungee jumping off of Preston [Lacy] into the ocean in Miami. We drew that up on a napkin and thought, Hey, we can do this! When it was done I couldn't believe we'd just come up with this idea and made it happen.

What I've always enjoyed about the Jackass stuff is the simplicity of a lot of it, like when you were being dragged behind the van on ■

Have you designed any of your own tattoos? I haven't designed any of my own tattoos, but I have done six tattoos on different people. On Rick Thorne I did a stick figure eagle that said "I fly solo" after he broke up with his ex-wife. Then another guy in Boise, Idaho, Tony Adamson—who had done the tattoo on the back of my calf that says "Until the wheels fall off" with a burning wheel—on him I did a script tattoo that says "Until the ink runs out."

When Ryan Dunn passed away there was speculation on the internet about whether or not it was fake, particularly because of the film he had coming up, Living Will. You were just beginning the process of grieving for your friend while all of this was happening. Were you aware of it? I still hear about it to this day. And everybody still comes up ... it was weeks ago and people still ... It sucks. I mean, even on the internet for a while I was considered dead. When I hear people outside of my family circle or my friends, I just kind of listen to the TV, know what I mean? To me when people are talking it's just words coming out of their mouth. I think some people do it to get a reaction out of you, and I've learned now that it's better to keep quiet than to give somebody a reaction. Then it's like fuel to them to continue and continue. So I just say, "Okay. Let people say whatever they want."

amazing portrait artist. I thought that if it was the opposite and I passed away, Dunn would have done the same thing. Dunn passed away and I had stayed home all day, and by the next day I'd texted my friend Grant and said I wanted to get Dunn tattooed on me. He goes, "You know what? I was thinking about it but I didn't want to bother you. I thought you'd want that done." I looked up photos and thought, What photo totally reminds me of Dunn and that look he had? I found that one where it's a real close face portrait with a cigarette in his mouth giving an "I'm pissed off" smirk-look. I was like, That is totally Dunn right there. If anybody looks at it they know it's Dunn.

He definitely looks a bit surly. Yeah, he's Dunn, know what I mean? He was one of the most sweet-hearted guys in the world, do anything for anybody. But of course when you first see him he's always going to be like, "Yeah, what's up, fucker?" He's that kind of guy. So the picture totally comes off that way, and that's what I was looking for when I wanted to do this.

On Twitter you posted a video of you getting the tattoo. You wrote that you wished you were getting the tattoo because you had lost a bet. Yeah. I wish it would have been that way. I fucking miss that guy a lot. ■



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STYLED BY JESSICA DELL





On Julia, Levi's vest;
Nicholas K dress. On
James, Pendleton shirt;
Levi's jeans; vintage
boots from Metropolis.





On Julia, Nicholas K shirt; Ksubi skirt; Uneathen necklace; Vans hat; vintage vest; vintage boots from Metropolis. On Randy, Carhartt vest and shirt; Levi's jeans; Red Wing boots; vintage belt from What Comes Around Goes Around.

Edwin jeans, vintage
belt, vintage boots
from Metropolis.





On Julia, Levi's vest; Nicholas K dress. On James, Pendleton shirt.



Pendleton shirt; Edwin jeans; vintage belt; vintage boots from Metropolis.

On Randy, American
Apparel T-shirt;
Carhartt shirt;
Victorious #2 jeans.
On James, Edwin
jean, Metropolis belt;
Vintage shoes.

Models: James with Request;
Randy and Julia with Major

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"Fame and fortune don't necessarily walk hand in hand. You have to be smart enough to make the fortune from the fame." —Lyle Tuttle

PHOTO BY DUSTIN COHEN



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LYLE TUTTLE

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BY MARISA KAKOULAS
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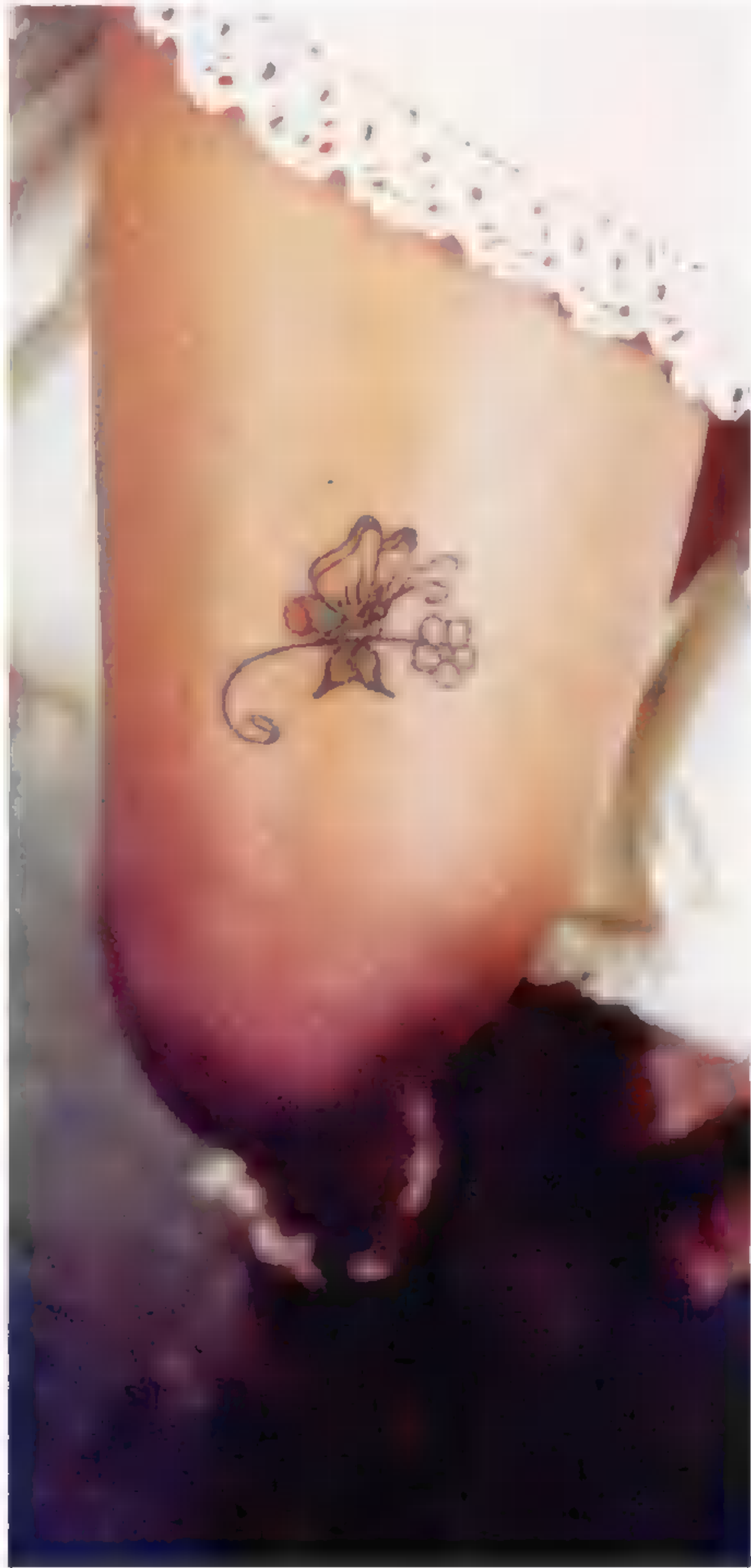
Before Ami James, Kat Von D, and reality TV, there was tattoo superstar Lyle Tuttle. Tattooing since 1949, Lyle rose to fame in the late '60s tattooing a predominantly female clientele and celebrities like Janis Joplin, Peter Fonda, and Cher at his San Francisco studio. He appeared on *The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson* and was photographed by Annie Leibovitz for the inside cover of *Rolling Stone* in the 1970s, an iconic image of modern tattooing. Despite criticism for being the tattoo media darling of his time, he is credited with presenting tattooing as an art form to the mainstream and promoting safe and hygienic industry practices. Tuttle officially retired around 1990 but continues to travel the tattoo convention circuit, often teaching seminars on machine building and lecturing on tattoo history. In this interview, he offers some history lessons, discusses fame, and muses on tattoo artists as contemporary witch doctors.

INKED: With your long and exciting history in tattooing, what do you consider one of the most significant landmarks in the art during your long career?

LYLE TUTTLE: Women's liberation. With more freedom, more women got tattooed. Back in the day, I was in more panties than a gynecologist—because women were getting their tattoos inside the bikini line, little rosebuds and butterflies.

What about female tattooists? In the documentary *Covered*, you said that when women

would come into your studio wanting to be tattooers, you'd say: "Look, honey, you got the world's oldest profession tied up, now you want the second? Do me a favor and buzz off." How have your thoughts on women in tattooing changed since then? Tattoo shops today are a lot kinder and gentler places than they used to be. In the past, tattoo artists worked in arcades, and it wasn't a good environment. Sometimes it was hard enough to protect yourself, let alone be the frontman for some woman. Women who were involved in tattooing at that time were generally married to a



"I WAS IN MORE PANTIES THAN A GYNECOLOGIST—BECAUSE WOMEN WERE GETTING THEIR TATTOOS INSIDE THE BIKINI LINE, LITTLE ROSEBUDS AND BUTTERFLIES."



tattoo artist, so they worked together—there were a few man-and-wife teams. There was a woman who tattooed before WWII in the 1930s. Her name was Mildred Hull. She was on the Bowery in NYC and had a sign displaying that she was the only woman tattooist on the Bowery. She was very proud.

So you're saying that you were talking more about the environment of tattooing at the time? Yes, the environment has changed. It's eco-friendly to women now! It's a pink world! And I think women in tattooing have been good for the industry.

Do you think that celebrities have also played a big role in the popularity of tattooing? Oh yes, sure. I remember there was this one guy who was getting an armband—his arm was the size of an oak tree—and tattoos always hurt more on the inside of the arm than the outside. And when the tattoo got into the inside of the arm, the guy said, "When I get a hold of that Dennis Rodman, I'm going to kill him..." I thought that was pretty funny.

You've tattooed so many celebrities yourself. Cher, Peter Fonda, Janis Joplin... The first day I went into work after Janis died, there was a girl wait-

ing by the front door, and she wanted Janis's heart on her chest. A lot of people wanted the tattoos she had. I still get inquiries about her wristband, which I just freehanded from a piece of jewelry she had.

Tattooing celebrities also brought you notice, like being on the inside cover of *Rolling Stone* and even on their Christmas card. What was one of the best things that came of that? Well, I'll tell you what wasn't: Fame and fortune don't necessarily walk hand in hand. You have to be smart enough to make the fortune from the fame. But I never was a money-grubber. The buck was never first and foremost to me. All my publicity, which was mostly from women I tattooed, started in the late '60s. 1970 was a bumper year for me, '71 even more so, and '72 was my heyday. I don't even know why you're talking to me now. I'm a has-been. But I guess that's better than being a never-was.

Has there ever been a backlash to your popularity? Not really. There were some people I alienated because of my popularity. Today, I have guys coming up to me and saying, "I want to be as famous as you someday." And I say, "You ain't fucking good-looking enough!" [Laughs.] But tat-

tooing has really been kind to me.

What do you think about today's popularity of tattooing? It's too easy. Too accessible. Today, you see supplier catalogs in the tattoo shop waiting room. And the shops have become pussycats and hangouts for yuppies and other degenerates. These silly bastards are getting tattooed on the sides of their necks and getting their hands all marked up. When people start screwing around with their bodies, they keep looking for new avenues and then it gets into one-upmanship. How do you take a day off? These people can't take a day off unless they go to some blind farm. I'm not ashamed of my tattoos, but they are nobody's goddamn business.

Tell me about your first tattoo. When I was growing up during WWII, many servicemen coming back from the war or on leave would have a tattoo dribbled on them, and boy, those were hot stuff to me, something everything teenage boy would admire—travel, adventure, romance. Tattoos to me were like stickers on my luggage. I just had to have one.

When did you get it? In 1946. I went to San Francisco when I was 14 one day—I lived 120 miles

inked scene | ICON

north of San Francisco—but not to get a tattoo, just to see the big city. I passed by a shop and peeked in the door and the guy says to me, “What the hell do you want?” I said, “Umm,” and pointed to a heart with “mother” because I could afford that one. I remember when I stepped over the threshold of that shop I had no idea where it was leading me. It was stepping into a time machine. It consumed my whole life.

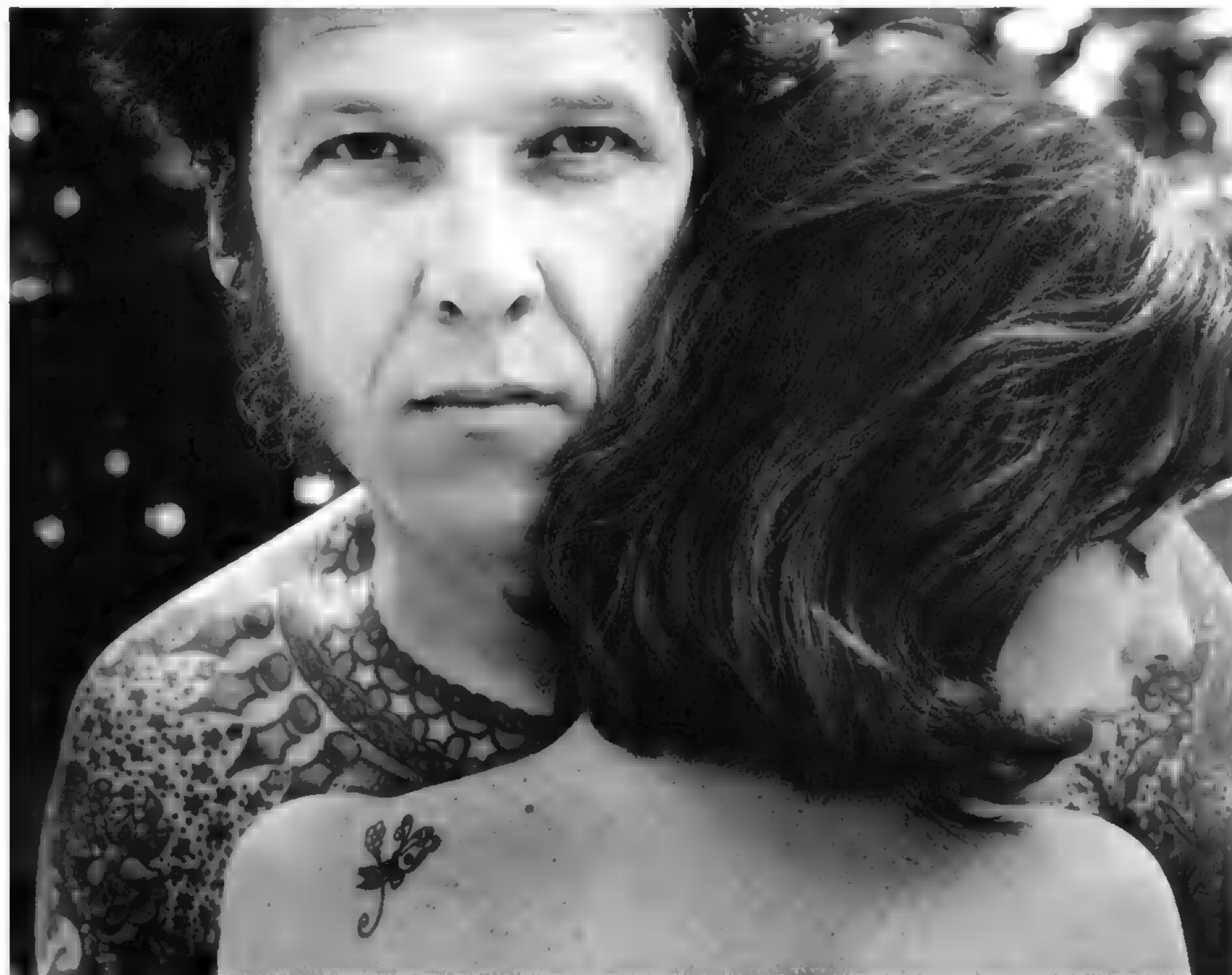
What was it that was so attractive to you?

I don't know. It was an atavistic tug. Atavism is a reversion to primitive nature. I believe in genetic remembrance. How many thousands of generations of cultures have had tattoos as an important part of their culture? Tattooing is the mother art. It's been around as long as anything else. Neanderthals could have tattooed; there's evidence of that in cave paintings. But the damn church got involved and destroyed everything they didn't agree with, so there's a gap in the record, but it dates back long before written history. Being a tattoo artist is the closest goddamn thing the general public has to a witch doctor they are ever going to get. We all suffer from the lost tribe syndrome.

When did you start tattooing?

Three years later I was tattooing professionally, in 1949. The designs we'd do in those days are what they now call “old school.” At least they spell *school* correctly. Now there's “new skool” with a K. I'm coming out with a school, a style of my own called “old stool.” We'll only use brown outlines.

You can come out of retirement for that!



“NEANDERTHALS COULD HAVE TATTOOED; THERE'S EVIDENCE OF THAT IN CAVE PAINTINGS. BUT THE DAMN CHURCH GOT INVOLVED AND DESTROYED EVERYTHING THEY DIDN'T AGREE WITH. BEING A TATTOO ARTIST IS THE CLOSEST GODDAMN THING THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAS TO A WITCH DOCTOR THEY ARE EVER GOING TO GET.”

Yeah. *[Laughs.]* It's funny because I come out of retirement a lot. Anywhere I'm at, I'm asked to do a free autograph tattoo. I've been doing it for 15 years or something. One guy came up to me and said, “I get so goddamn tired to roll over in the morning and see your name on my old lady.” There are also people with my portrait tattooed on them that I've signed. What I got a bang out of is, one time, a woman got so mad at me, she went out and had my name laser removed. That's a real peacock feather in my hat!

Why was she mad? She erroneously thought that I had said something about her at a convention. Someone must have told her a lie, which started off as me being drunk in a bar. I drink. I usually start around 12 noon, but I don't get drunk.

You mentioned conventions. I see that you're still going around the convention circuit a lot and teaching seminars. I've been doing seminars on machine building for 10 years. I'm an amateur machine builder. I don't have a factory or

anything. I build them for my entertainment. But I'd never thought that I'd be teaching anybody sitting in a classroom and divulging secrets. In the past, it would be unheard of.

But you have done a lot to preserve tattooing's past. Tell me about your museum collection. What are some of the highlights?

Well, for one, there's my Edison autographic printer. It was made for cutting perf [perforated] patterns. They punch all these holes in a piece of paper following a design to transfer the artwork, so it was used as a stencil to make copies. It wasn't invented as a tattoo machine, but it was the first electric handheld device with a reciprocating motion. You don't need much penetration to go through paper, but to tattoo a person, you have to have a much longer stroke. So in 1891, Samuel O'Reilly, an Irish tattoo artist who became well-known in New York, came up with the idea to increase the stroke to make it more powerful and penetrate the skin. He's credited as the inventor of the electric tattoo machine, but Edison really was. O'Reilly only made a modification of the autographic printer. That's the granddaddy of all tattoo machines even though it was not designed for it. Edison in all his stuffiness would probably have frowned upon tattoos.

Have you ever thought of writing a book?

A literary agent asked me once, “Why don't you write a book?” But something stuck in my head that I heard someone say: “To write is not to live because you're reliving.” Why rekindle an old relationship when you [can] go out and make a half a dozen new ones? On Benjamin Franklin's [mock] epitaph—I don't remember the exact words—was something like, “Here lies Ben Franklin, like the cover of an old book with its pages torn out...the story will be written again in a greater and grander edition.”

In your 80 years on this earth, what personal doctrine or ideology have you developed?

“No sweat.” Don't ever sweat over anything and don't let anyone make you sweat. I have it tattooed on the back of my leg in kanji, but they couldn't translate “No Sweat” exactly so it reads “Perspiration No.” I've been at Chinese places and pulled my pant leg up and they stare at it, beyond their comprehension. I'm actually just seeking to find one truth. If I find one, then maybe I will find the second one. Man is always looking for the secret. I'd like to know one goddamned truth before I die. ■



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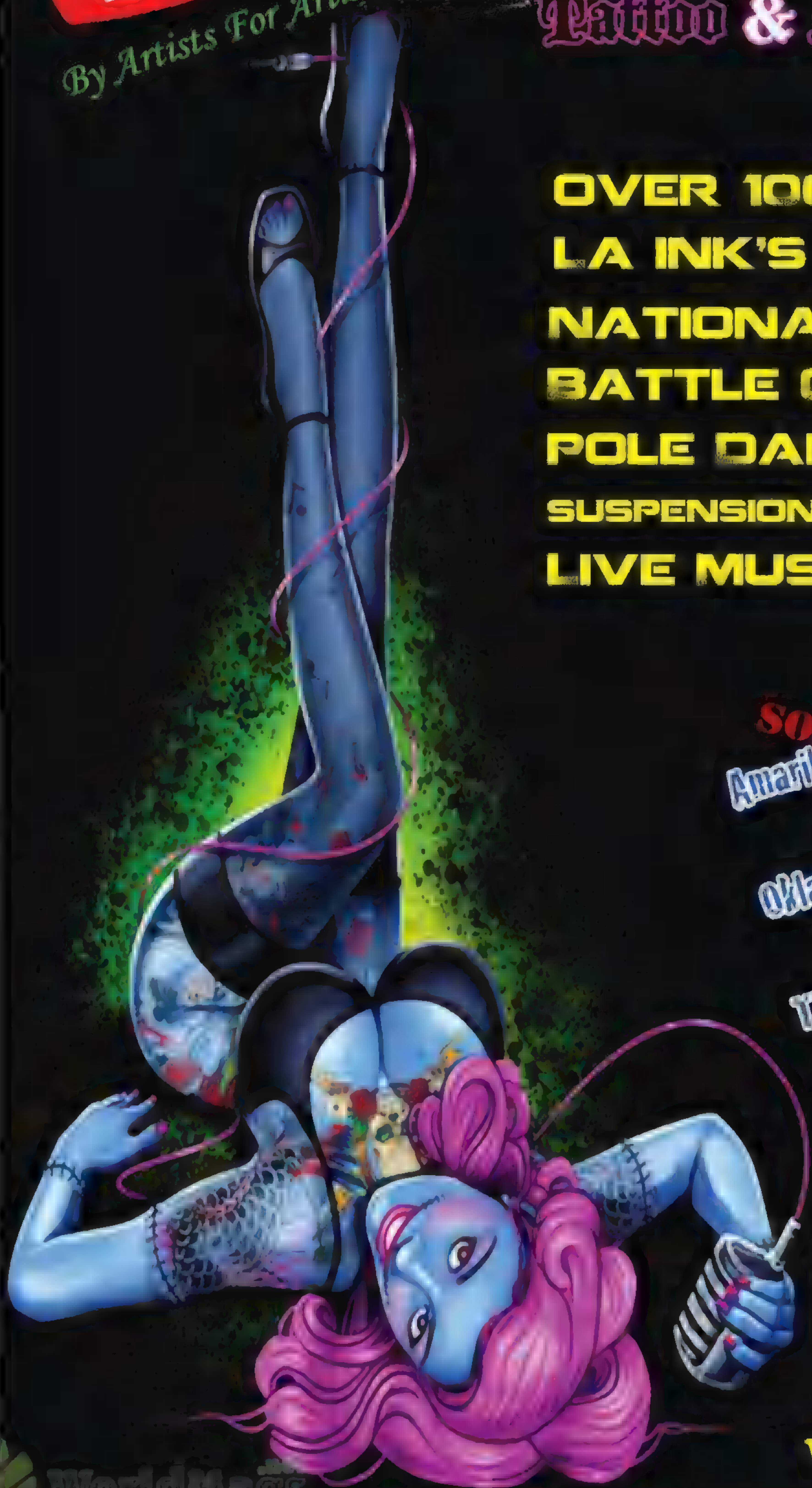
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Standing, from left: John Johnson, Brian Ragusin, Jeremiah Barba, Ryan, Chris Turnbow, Shay Bradimus, Kari Barba. Sitting, from left: Laura Wangerin, Jeremy, Billy Sarno.

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BY LANI BUESS
PORTRAIT BY JOHN DOLE

Twenty-two Chestnut Place in Long Beach has a rich legacy in the tattoo industry. It's home to the oldest and longest-running tattoo shop in the U.S., established in 1927 and made famous by legendary tattooer Bert Grimm, who inked up stationed sailors (and supposedly Bonnie and Clyde) in what was the Pike amusement park in the 1950s. In the 1970s, the shop was owned by Grimm's nephew, pioneering tattooer Bob Shaw, and his family, until it was sold in 2004, when it was in danger of becoming a condominium. History would have ended there were it not for Kari Barba. She took over the shop, naming it Kari Barba's Outer Limits Tattoo Shop and Body Piercing, and kept the legacy alive.

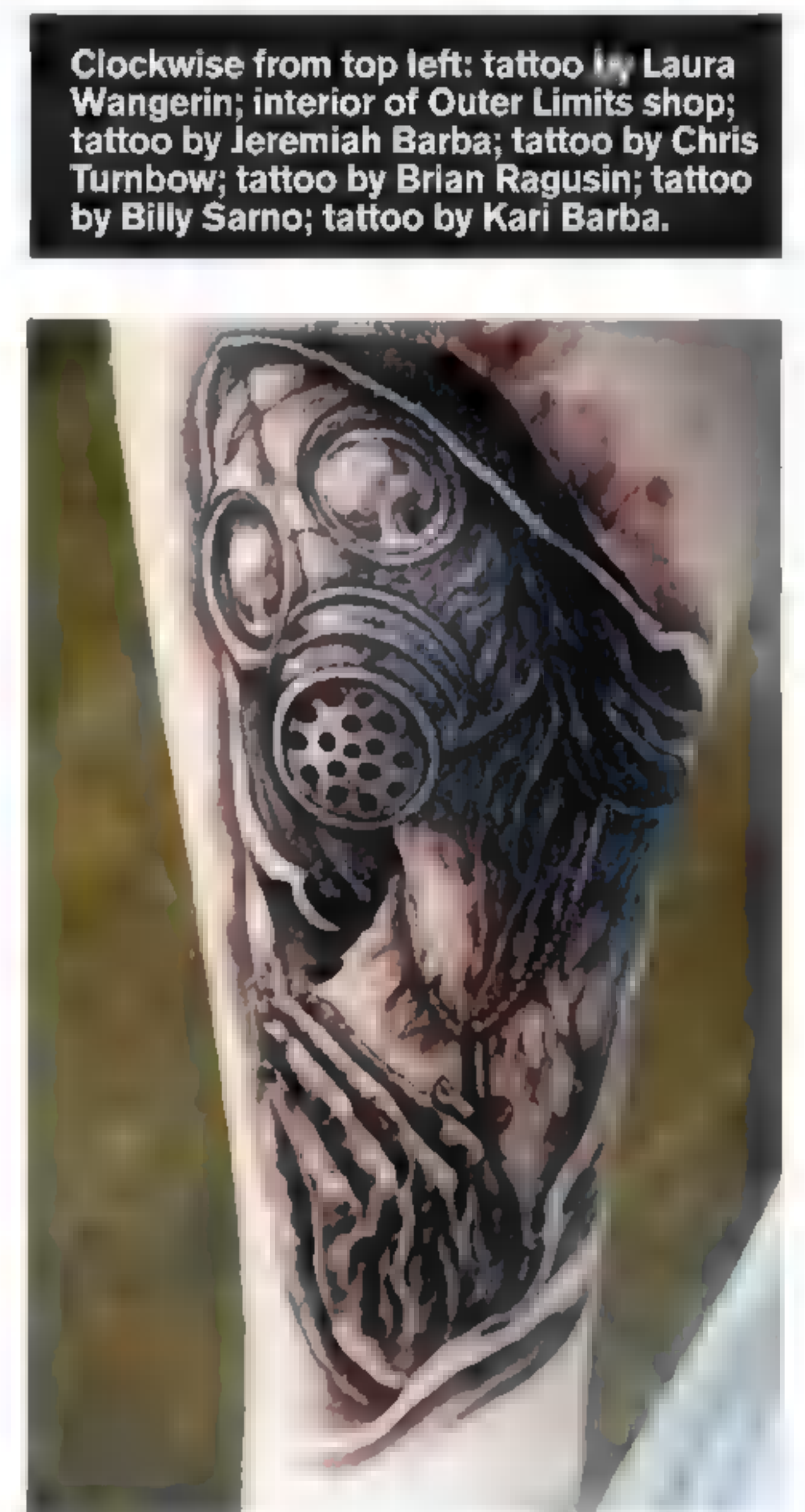
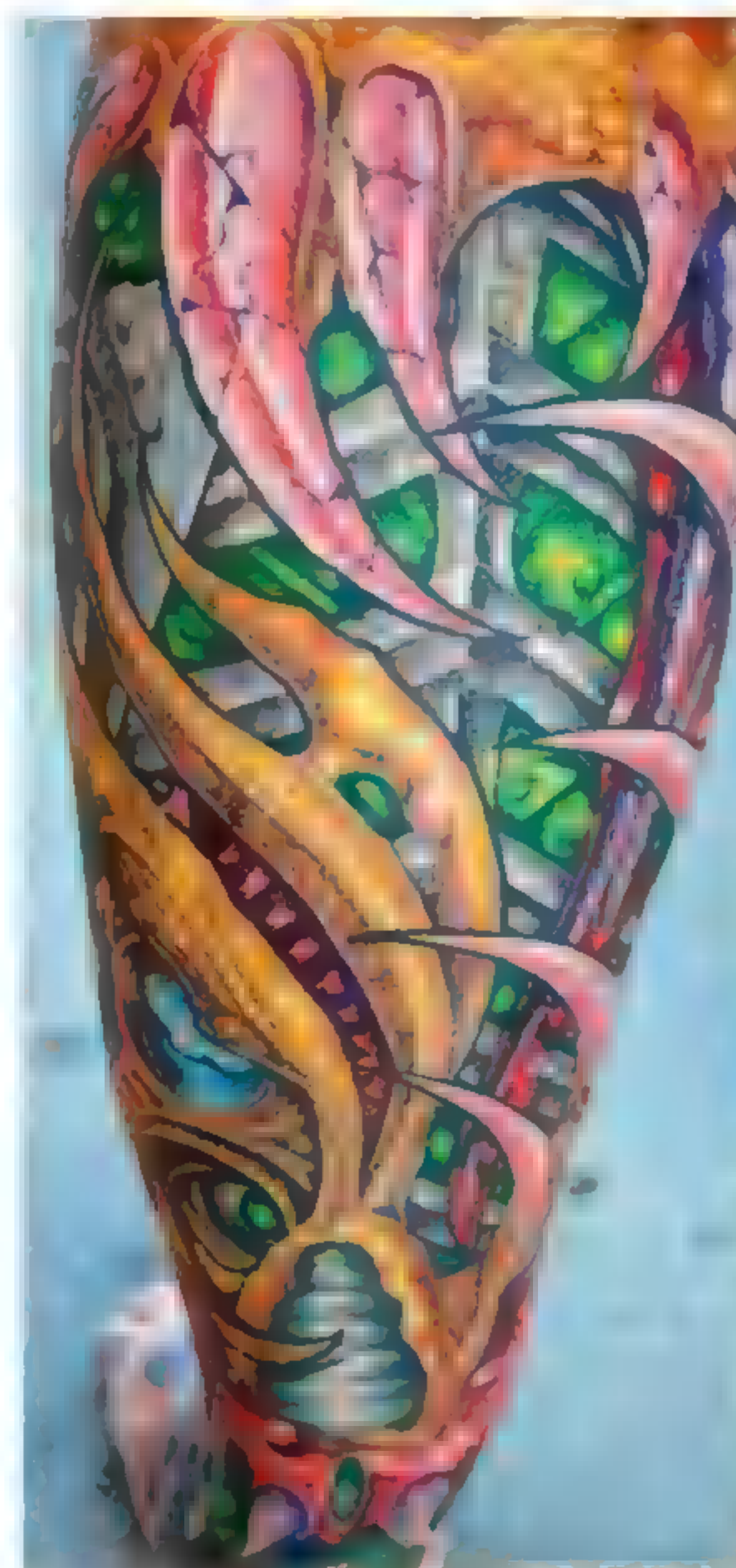
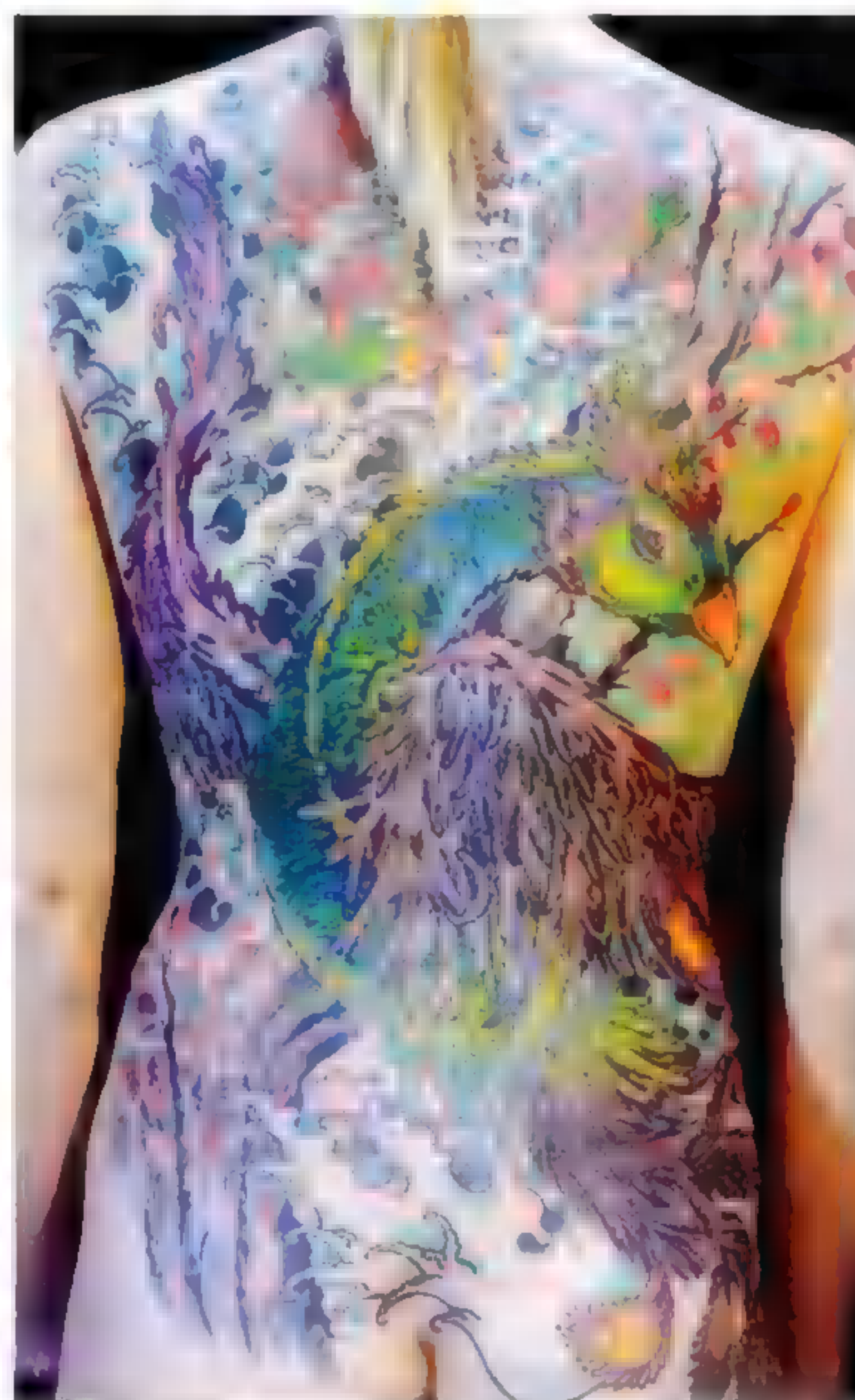
"I didn't want that history of the shop to die," says Barba, who also owns Outer Limits shops in Orange, Anaheim, and Costa Mesa, CA. "A lot of younger tattoo artists forget who was here before them. But trying to remember how it all started is important so that you can learn from other people's steps—and their mistakes."

To retain its history, Barba remodeled and created a museum in the shop. Old photos of past

patrons, stencils, flash, and artifacts from the bygone era are now integrated on the walls or housed in display cases. The past is ever-present, so much so that Barba thought the place might be haunted after a series of freak accidents took place: a piercer had his earring ripped out, a construction worker lost a finger, another broke his arm. The culmination of odd incidents compelled her to get the shop cleansed. But she still appreciates the storied past, and has worked to make some history of her own.

In 1979, Barba started tattooing at the age of 19. She paved her way in a male-dominated industry, only on rare occasion being startled by discrimination from old-school tattooers who didn't want to be inked by a female. "I was really lucky," says Barba. "I felt equal, and I felt the majority of the tattoo artists felt I was too."

At 23, Barba bought her first shop in Anaheim to avoid the confines placed on her by an employer and set a higher standard in shop safety and cleanliness. She learned the hard way what it meant to be the boss. "I had that naive kind of childish attitude of 'How hard can it be?' It wasn't hard in the



Clockwise from top left: tattoo by Laura Wangerin; interior of Outer Limits shop; tattoo by Jeremiah Barba; tattoo by Chris Turnbow; tattoo by Brian Ragusin; tattoo by Billy Sarno; tattoo by Kari Barba.

beginning ... but then you get to a point where you have to think paperwork, forms, taxes, and all of the things you don't want to think about." Time has not only taught her to be business-savvy but has also helped her evolve as an artist. She went from pencil sketching, tattooing solely with a three needle, and relearning styles she didn't initially feel comfortable with to winning over 400 awards and, at one time, designing for clothing line Sinful by Affliction.

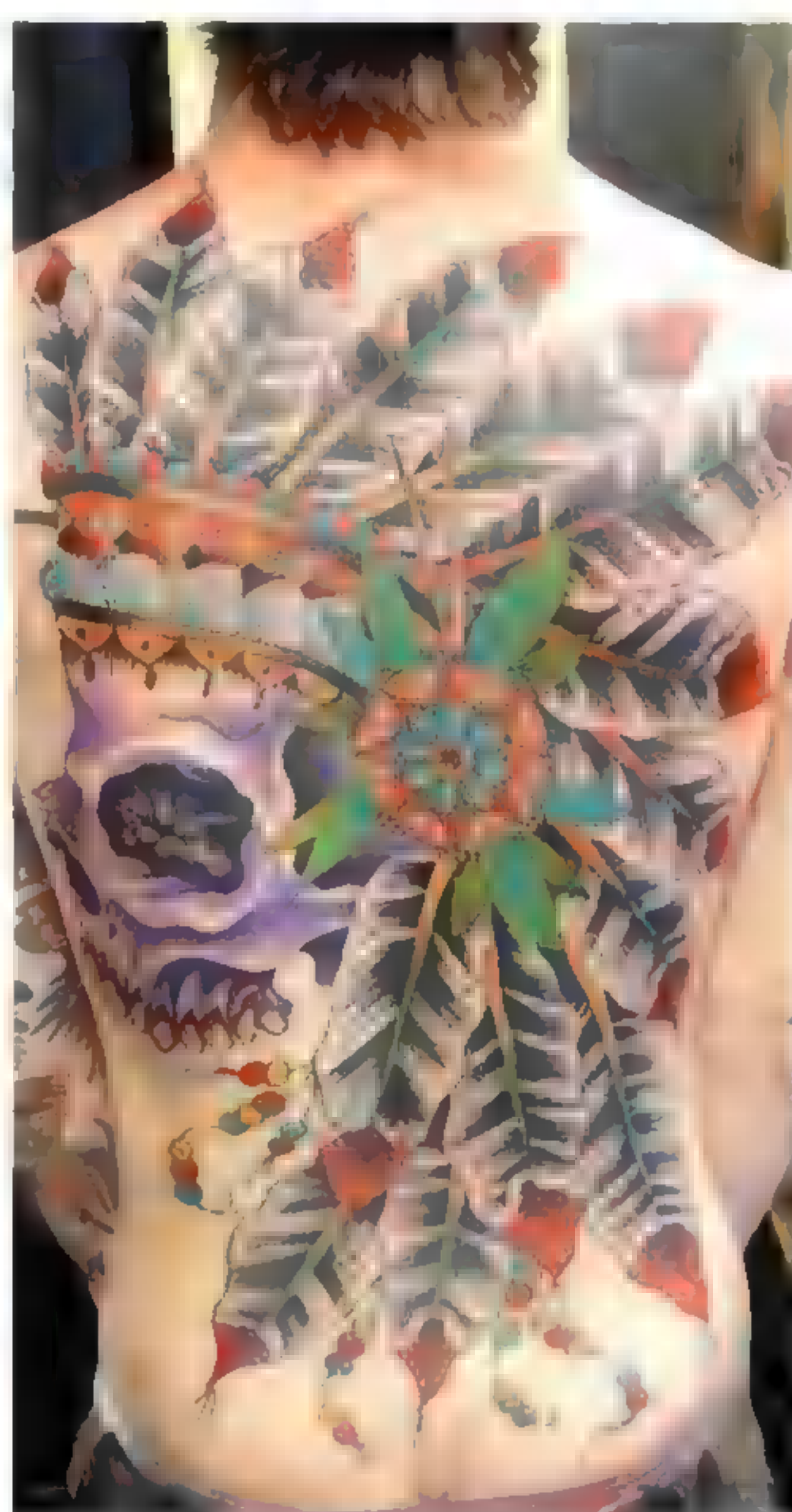
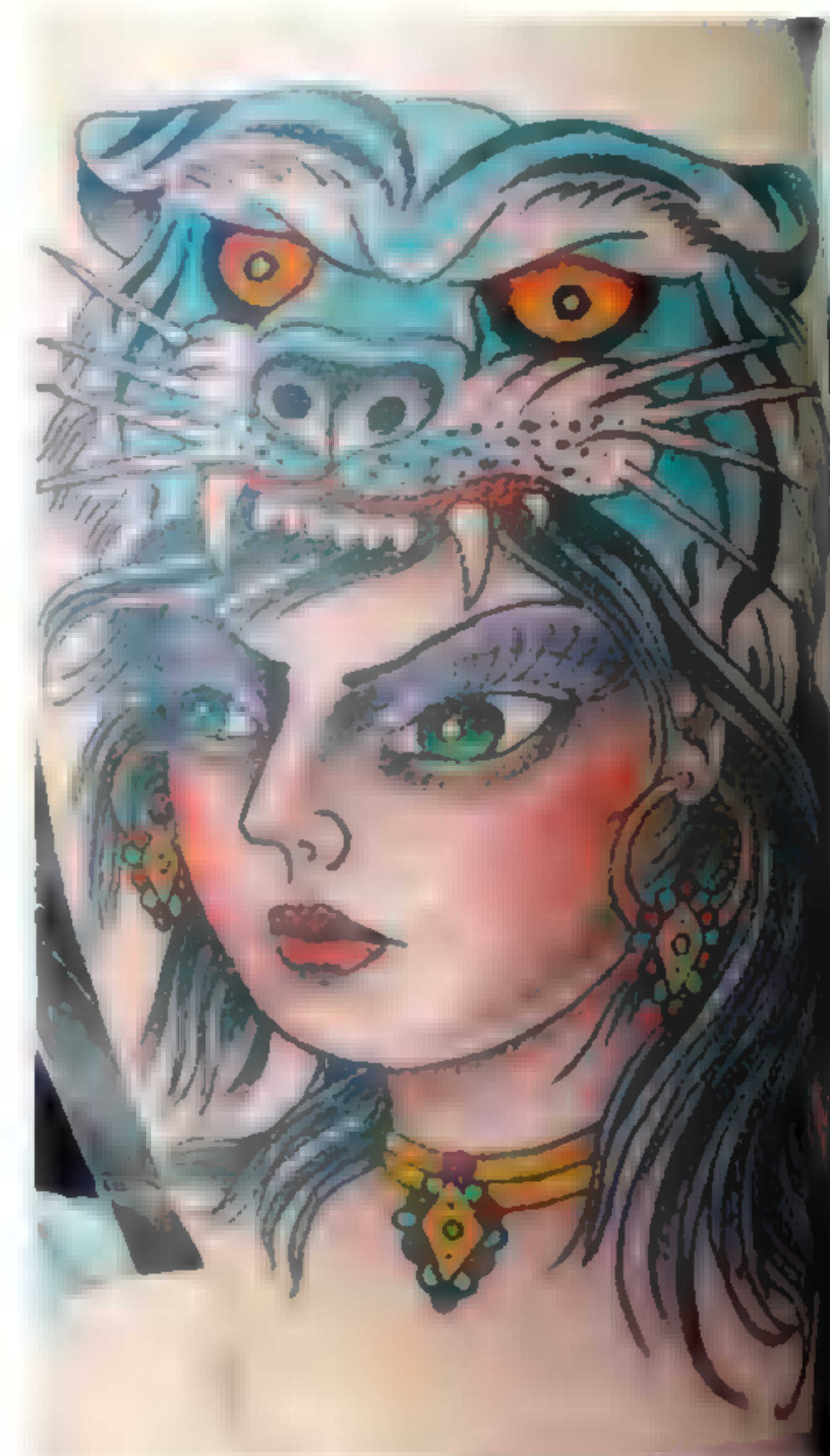
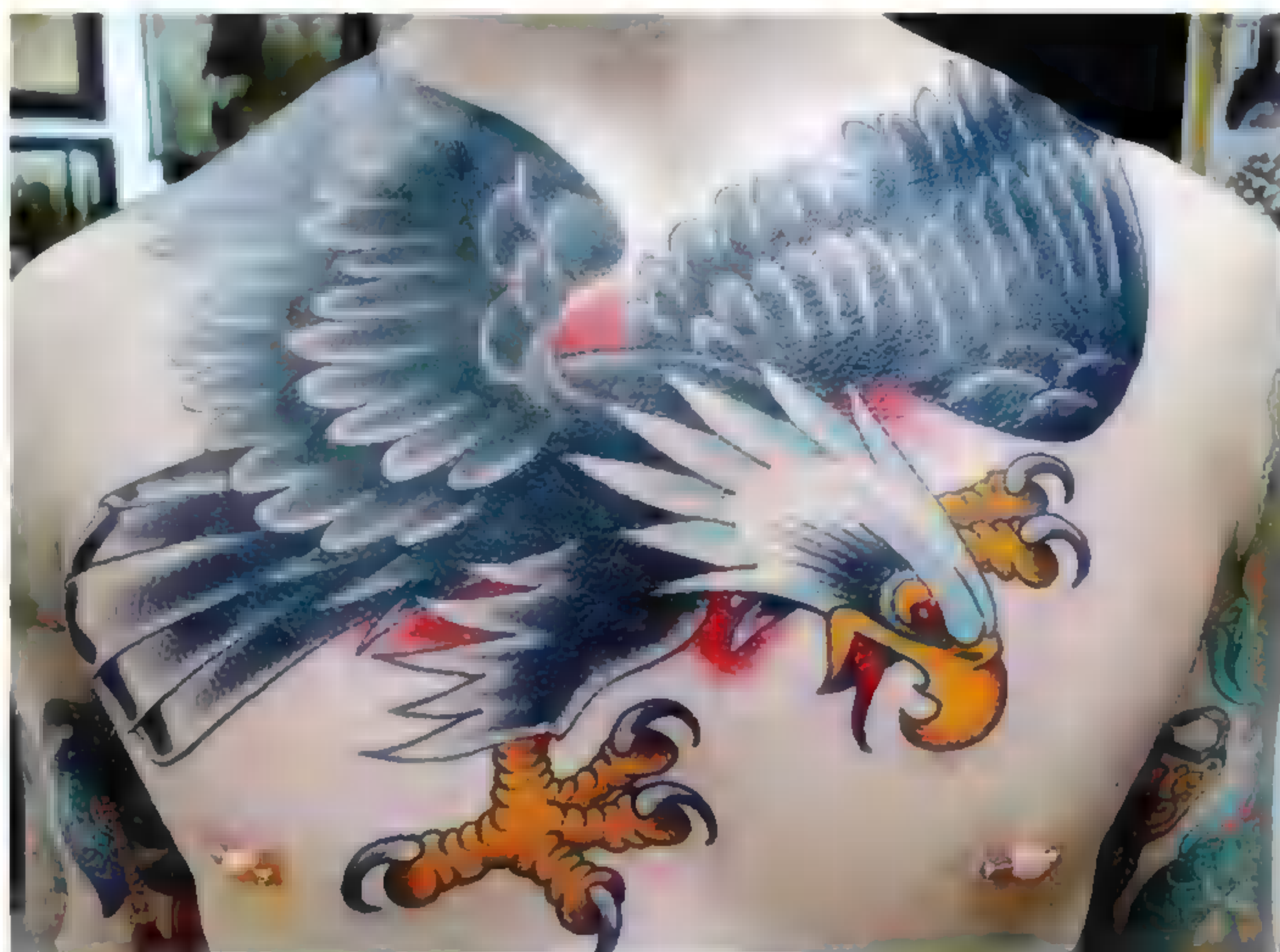
Now she's passed the torch her son, Jeremiah Barba, who also began tattooing at 19, apprenticing under Bill at Outer Limits. "[Bill] was like, 'When

are you going to stop slinging burgers and start slinging some ink?'" Jeremiah recalls. But having a well-known mom in the industry didn't mean things would come easy. In fact, Jeremiah admits to having a party-boy past that led to his being fired—twice. He was even re-apprenticed by his mom to ensure his skills were up to par to work at her shop. "Now I'm on a more mature level, my art's progressed, and it's awesome to come in every day and your mom's there," he says. "My whole life I've watched her draw and tattoo, so everything embedded in my memories of tattoos were already of things she's done.

She's taught me a lot." With over 60 awards under his belt, he's certainly making a name for himself.

While future plans for the Long Beach shop aren't set, Kari may leave it to Jeremiah, who expressed interest in eventually passing it down to his art-loving 9-year-old daughter, the owner of a tattoo machine since her first birthday. "Keeping the shop alive is really important," says Jeremiah. The long lineage of tattoo families rooted at Chestnut Place can certainly attest to that, but, he says, running such a historic shop is "a big responsibility." ■

inked scene | PROFILE



CHAD KOEPLINGER

FROM: Tattoo Paradise

VISIT: chadkoeplingerslife.wordpress.com

Why did you become a tattoo artist? I've always loved tattoos since I was 6 years old. When I got a little older a guy I grew up around opened a shop in town, so I started going there every day. After about five or six years I finally convinced him to teach me how to tattoo.

What's the craziest tattoo that you've done? I haven't done too many crazy tattoos, but a fun time that comes to mind is hand-poking tattoos with some friends inside the Colosseum in Rome, on a beautiful spring day, telling the other tourists, "Move along, nothing to see here!"

How would you describe your style? Proper. Confident.

Would you consider tattooing a form of art? No, not at all; it's a craft. Drawing is an art, sure, but the application of a tattoo is definitely a craft, and one that should be done with someone who has a true passion for it and its history. People who think that tattooing is a great way to make money from their art should find a different way.

You've traveled a lot, what is the

perception of classic American tattooing outside the country?

I've tattooed on every continent except Antarctica, and traveled to 57 countries so far. Everywhere it seems this style is popular, and it's not just classic American tattooing, but just classic tattooing in general. With the exception of the South Pacific, when most people around the world had their first thoughts of a tattoo they thought of a skull, a rose, or something that you would imagine in the "classic" iconography—not an armband, or a color portrait of someone.

Who are your artistic influences, tattoo or otherwise?

Traveling has been a huge influence. As far as other tattoo artists go: Ed Hardy, Dan Higgs, Horitaka, Nick Colella, Matt Knopp, Jondix, Thomas Hooper, Rudy Fritsch, Tomás García. Those guys are amazing. Then there are other artists like Soga Shohaku, Tamara de Lempicka, Hiroshi Hirakawa, Willem de Kooning, and René Magritte.

Any horror stories from the road?

It's a tough road, man. I have some stories, but if you want to hear them come get tattooed!



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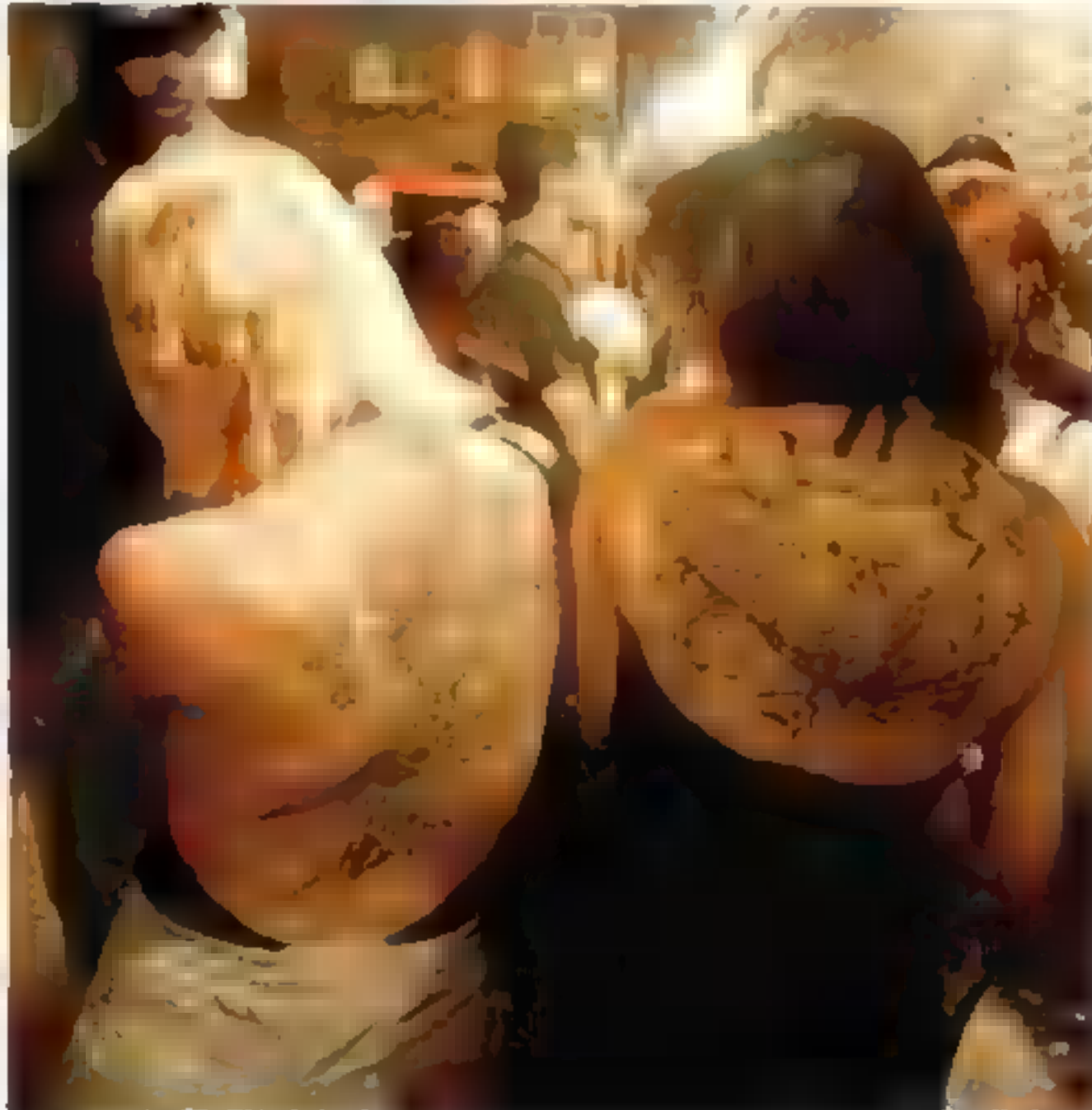
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MARIACHI EL BRONX
Sailor Jerry Rum invited their closest friends, devotees, and the well-inked to enjoy their golden elixir along with Mariachi El Bronx at the Brooklyn Bowl in June. Mariachi El Bronx is hardcore punk act The Bronx's Jalisco-Western-style alter ego. And it is fair to say that after a few Sailor Jerry Rum drinks, our minds were delightfully altered. For more photos go to inkedmag.com.



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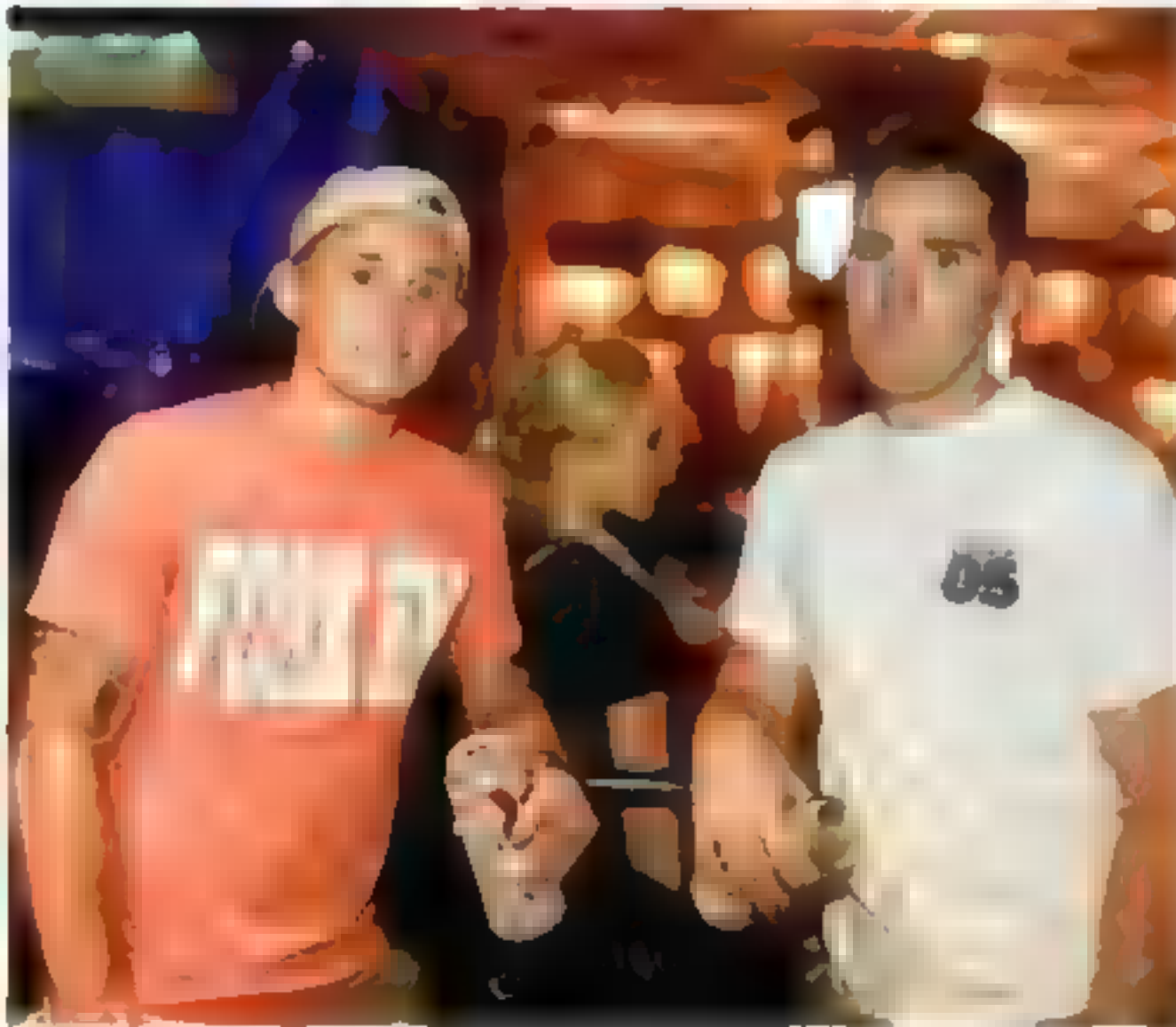
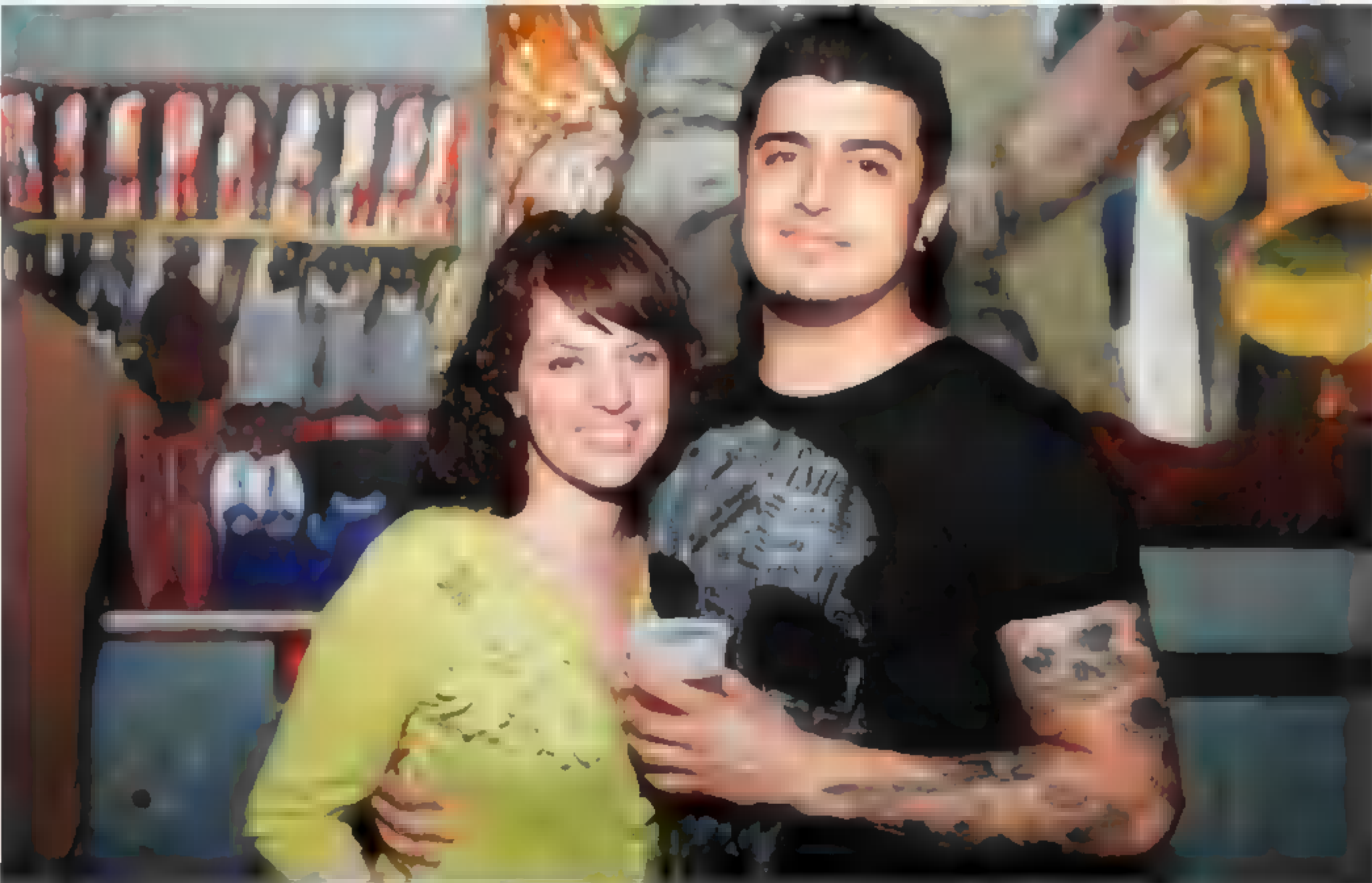
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TAKING BACK SAN DIEGO

A few days before they unleashed their self-titled album, Taking Back Sunday took to Live Nation's stage and rocked San Diego. Fueled by Coca-Cola and beer, the TBS faithful banged their heads and showed off their tattoos, turning the House of Blues into a huge summer house party. For more photos go to inkedmag.com.



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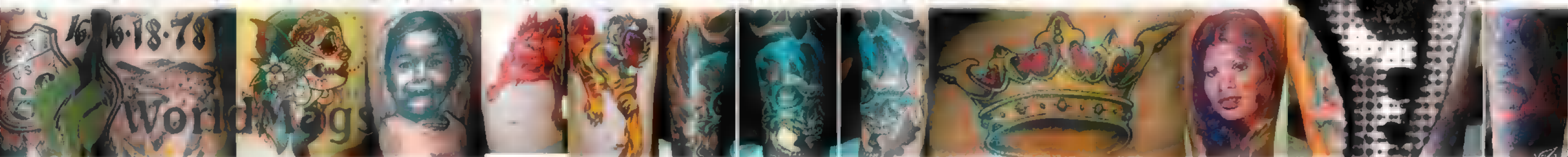
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